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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANNON CLEARY

Michael Cleary (left) with his father. Michael joined the Army after graduating from Hamilton.

Michael Cleary '03 is first alumn to die serving in Iraq

by Emma Furman '07
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

According to all those who knew and loved him, Michael Cleary '03 was a Hamilton student who never lacked enthusiasm for life and learning whether it was inside or out of the classroom. His memorable smile, thoughtfulness and caring for others and dedication to his work are just a few of Michael's many remarkable qualities that those close to him mention time after time.

On December 20, 2005 Michael was leading his unit back from a successful mission to destroy a bomb factory in Samarra, Iraq when they were ambushed by insurgent forces. He was killed just 10 days away from finishing his time in Iraq and returning home to the United States for a February wedding to his fiancée and childhood friend, Erin Kavanagh. Michael was to end his active-duty obligation to the Army this coming December after serving in Iraq since January of 2004.

Michael, a first lieutenant, served with E Company, 1st Battallion and 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division and was a graduate of Airborne School, Ranger School and Anti-Terrorist school. He had also just been informed that he was eligible to be promoted to the rank of captain.

However, Michael had not always planned on following the unusual path for a Hamilton grad-

*see **Michael**, page 2*

Hamilton's water remains in violation of EPA standards

by Ian Mandel '06
SENIOR EDITOR

Hamilton College's drinking water is still contaminated with higher than acceptable levels of trihalomethanes (THM), disinfection byproducts suspected of having a link to increased risk of certain types of cancer and pregnancy complications, College officials publicly announced this week.

The Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) measured 90 parts per billion of THM in December 2005, a level that was lower than previous readings but still 10 parts per billion above the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) maximum allowable level of 80 parts per billion. The average level of THM in Hamilton's water over the past year also remains above allowable levels at 103.5 parts per billion.

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Elevated levels of trihalomethanes (THM) in the College's water continue to pose a threat to Hamiltonians.

Joseph Robertaccio, P.E., a public health engineer at the OCHD, explained that THM levels in the College's water change cyclically, decreasing when air temperatures are low and increasing when temperatures rise.

"What happens is, it [THM levels] peaks during the summer,

*see **Water**, page 4*

Hamilton chooses new football coach

by Meredith Kennedy '09
NEWS WRITER

For all those Hamilton College football fans, there is a new coach on the Hill: Steve Stetson. While Stetson is an unfamiliar face to most, he returns to Hamilton, where he was head coach from 1982-1984. He coached the Continentals to an impressive 6-1-1 record in 1984, when he was named the New England region's Coach of the Year.

But for now, Stetson is not overly concerned with predicting numbers. He does, however, predict a "hardworking, disciplined football team," which he can say confidently after Monday night's team meeting.

Athletic Director Dave Thompson was enthusiastic about the hiring, saying that "we are excited to have Steve Stetson join the Hamilton College athletic department staff," as was Stetson. Due to Stetson's large role in Hamilton's turn-around back in the eighties and his successes at Hartwick College and at the University of New Hampshire, Thompson added that Stetson "was attractive to us" to fill the position. After dealing with over one hundred qualified candidates

PHOTO COURTESY OF C&D

Steve Stetson will serve as Hamilton's new head football coach.

in the applicant pool, Thompson was pleased with the decision and was "confident in Stetson and his ability to lead."

*see **Coach**, page 3*

Tops Market closes; will re-open as Hannaford

by Caitlin Rochford '06
NEWS EDITOR

As Hamilton students were arriving back on campus, Tops Market in Clinton was closing its doors. Several Tops Markets in the area, including those in Clinton, East Utica and Washington Mills, permanently closed on January 14, after selling the stores to Hannaford Supermarkets.

Tops declared in a statement that, "Tops Markets announced last July its intent to seek buyers for its 31 stores located in Eastern New York and the Adirondack region as part of the chain's long-term strategy to redefine its core markets. Since that announcement 21 stores have been sold. C&S Wholesalers recently signed a deal for 12 stores. Price Chopper has purchased six stores and the landlords of three stores have reacquired the properties." This leaves only six Tops Markets in Eastern New York.

Until the Clinton branch reopens on Memorial Day Weekend, local shoppers will have to travel to New Hartford. According to the *Observer-Dispatch*, Hannaford Supermarket in New Hartford will offer a shuttle service from the three closed locations to its existing location on Commercial Boulevard.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Three Tops Markets in the area closed their doors permanently over the weekend. They will re-open in May as Hannaford Supermarkets.

Executive Vice President of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce Ferris J. Betrus said that, although he was aware of the shuttle service from the *Observer-Dispatch* article, he was not sure of any actual plans for a shuttle service from Clinton.

The Hamilton Jitney route will remain the same despite the changes in town. According to Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli '96, the Jitney currently stops at Wal-Mart in New Hartford. Magnarelli said, "That store is a 'super center' and includes a full grocery store."

Rebecca Grusky '06 said that she foresees some trouble driving to New Hartford during the winter months. Grusky added, "But I am excited that I discovered Hannford because of their cheese selection."

Shoppers can probably expect a slight decrease in prices when the new Hannaford moves in. According to Betrus, the Clinton Tops

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Hamilton College community celebrates MLK Weekend

by Kara Labs '09
News Writer

While many schools had the day off on Monday January 16 to celebrate Martin Luther King Day, it was the first day of classes back on the Hill at Hamilton College. Hamilton kicked off the week with a peace rally to celebrate the social justice movement led by Dr. King.

"It is the first year for the peace rally," said Associated Dean of Students for Diversity and Accessibility Berenecea Johnson, coordinator of this event. About twenty people were in attendance at any given time to celebrate. Among those in attendance were College President Joan Hinde Stewart and Associate Dean of Faculty Kirk Pillow.

To kick off the rally, Professor of Theatre Mark Cryer did a dramatic representation of Martin Luther King Jr.'s famed "I Have a Dream" speech. "It was quite wonderful," recalled Johnson. Poetry readings and a reflection on Dr. King read by Community Church Music Director Phyllis Breland and Hamilton College Chaplain Jeff McArn followed. The rally was cut short due to low attendance and lasted about an hour.

On Wednesday night, January 18 there was an annual commemorative dinner in the Annex. Professor of Classics and Africana Studies Shelley Haley gave a speech. Black Student Union (BSU) Culture Chair Andrea Stokes '08 said, "[Haley] had interesting views on how African Americans are today and what Martin Luther King would think of us."

Associate Professor of Music Doc Woods composed an original piece of music to commemorate the evening and BSU President Denroy Thomas '08 also gave a speech. The Hamilton College Gospel also provided entertainment.

On Saturday, January 21 the 8th annual Martin Luther King Service Day, sponsored by HAVOC, will take place. Check-in starts at 10:30 a.m. in Beinecke and the volunteering projects start at noon. Afterward there will be a catered dinner. To close out the week, there will be a special worship service in the Chapel from 11 a.m. until noon on Sunday, January 22.

Martin Luther King Day is celebrated annually on the third Monday of January in celebration of King's birthday, which is on January 15. It is the only federal holiday commemorating an African American. The holiday has been celebrated since 1986 after President Ronald Reagan signed the bill that created it in 1983.

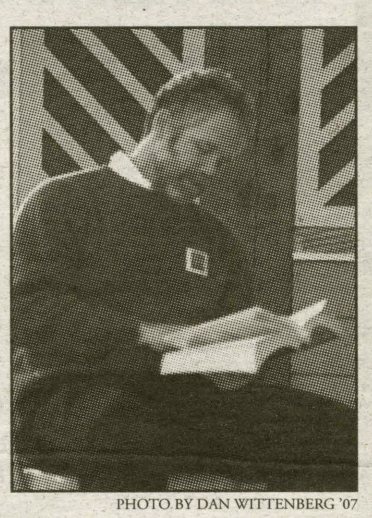

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Hamilton Chaplain Jeff McCarn offers reflections on Martin Luther King Jr.

Senior Editor Ian Mandel '06 and News Editor Caitlin Rochford '06 contributed to this article.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Mark Cryer performs Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speach to a small group of onlookers. The peace rally ended early due to lack of participation.

Hamilton alumn remembered for kindness, caring

*from **Michael**, page 1*

uate and joining the Army. According to his sister, Erin Cleary Flanagan '91, "9/11 very much triggered something" in Cleary. She mentioned that service and helping others was something that had always been an important part of the Cleary family, but that after 9/11 Michael "felt a deep sense of duty" to his country.

His sister Shannon Cleary recalled him explaining his decision to join the Army to her before he left: "I remember him saying, 'Sissy, our country deserves the best of the best and the strongest of the strongest; I won't always be that, but I am now.'"

"It's not the typical route for the Hamiltonian," Shannon went on to say, but "he believed in that and he believed in serving."

After making his decision Michael joined the ROTC, and because Hamilton has no ROTC program, Michael attended the program in Syracuse. Erin remembered his dedication to his training: "He drove to Syracuse through snowstorms to honor his ROTC commitments."

Michael was not only extremely dedicated to serving his country, but to his family and friends above all. "Hamilton years, your college years, are the years when it's not the most important thing to go home every weekend, or when someone's sick to worry about family," said Shannon, "but he was the kid who somehow managed to make amazing friends at Hamilton," and still do all that. She recalled how Michael made frequent trips from Hamilton to visit their grandmother when she was passing away.

"He was always completely present," Shannon continued. "When he was with a family member he was with you one-hundred percent…he was the kind of person who didn't answer the call waiting."

She also described the incredibly close relationships that Michael had with his entire family, including his other sisters Kelly Cleary and Erin, his mother Marianne, his father Jack and his brother, Patrick Cleary, who has Down Syndrome. "I think that they [Michael and Patrick] had a great impact on each other," said his father, Jack Cleary. "He helped Mike to be understanding and accepting of all."

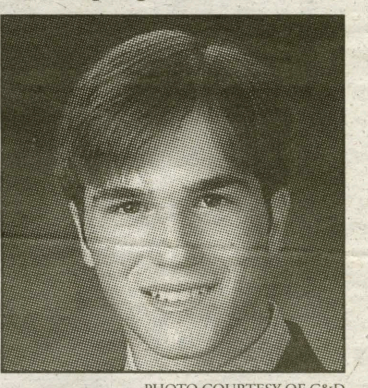

PHOTO COURTESY OF C&D

Michael was not only dedicated to his country, but also his friends and family.

Both Erin and Shannon also mentioned how close Michael was with his nephews. "He was a super-uncle on top of everything else," said Erin.

She went on to describe their entire family's relationship. "We were very close…we always did everything as an entire family." Michael held high the value of family as well.

"He enjoyed his time at Hamilton," said Shannon, "but he also made sure that his life revolved with family."

Michael attended Dallas High School in Dallas, Pennsylvania and spent his entire childhood growing up in the same community. Hamilton was part of Michael's life from an early

*see **Michael**, page 5*

Three faculty members promoted to professor

by Eric Kuhn '09
Insights & Ideas Editor

After years of dedication to teaching, conducting research, and giving back to the Hamilton College community, Associate Professor of Chemistry Karen Brewer, Associate Professor of Communication Catherine Phelan, and Associate Professor of Biology Patrick Reynolds were promoted to professor, the highest rank at Hamilton before administration, retroactive to July first.

In a memorandum sent out to the Hamilton students and faculty by Dean of Faculty David Paris, he praised each of the teachers for demonstrating "the outstanding teaching, continuing scholarship and dedicated service of the Hamilton Faculty."

Professor Brewer started at Hamilton in 1989 after earning her Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Brewer is famous for her office hours at the side of the pool during her child's swimming lessons and says that her students love how available she is. "I get to know my students on a different level," she says. It is not out of the ordinary for her students to give her tips on what holiday and birthday gifts she should buy her children. It is clear that she resonates great joy in the job. "Keeping all the balls in the air is what is so much fun about what we do," she says.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON.EDU

Catherine Phelan, Patrick Reynolds and Karen Brewer were all promoted to professor for their "outstanding teaching, continuing scholarship and dedicated service."

When not teaching, she does complex research with professors from other institutions as well as with Hamilton students all year around. Brewer has also published numerous peer-review papers and was awarded two research grants recently. She also is an active member of the Alcohol Coalition Task Force.

Dean Paris said, "Professor Brewer is routinely praised by her students for her accessibility and her clarity and skill in presenting material, always well-prepared... for helping the lecture material come to life and make sense."

Brewer said that the new promotion will give her "more academic and professional freedom in the years to come."

Professor Phelan is an associate professor of communication and chair of the communication department. With an interdisciplinary degree in com-

*see **Promotions**, page 4*

Stetson to return to the Hill

from ***Coach****, page 1*

His experience, success, and overall love for Hamilton makes Stetson "thrilled to be here." He is sure that come next fall, the team will "be the best they can be." However, he is unable to predict just exactly how good the team will be because the main priority at this time is to recruit freshmen players for next year. For now, he is more concerned with working with Admissions and securing strong players from the class of 2010 than he is with watching old football tapes.

As a graduate from Dartmouth College with experience in Division I, Hamilton is lucky to have Stetson back. New Hampshire head coach, Sean McDonnell, a former colleague, is "happy for him and I'm excited for the college. He's a hard-working guy and he's very, very bright. He made everybody around him better. I'm sure he'll bring that work ethic and winning tradition back to Hamilton."

Stetson has also hired his first assistant coach, Mike Tracy from Hartwick, who will be the defensive coordinator. In February, Stetson will look for an offensive line coach, but for now he is "very excited and confident in my own and Coach Tracy's abilities." Stetson is sure that there "isn't a more motivated coach to be here than me."

Senior caption Jay Rishel '06 is also confident in the new coach and says, "Coach Stetson is a great coach. He has turned this program around once before and I am pretty sure he will do it again. He has succeeded at every school he has been at." While it is tough for some players, like Jay, to see the old coaches go, there seems to be a shared belief for Stetson's future success and ability to improve on the team's past record of 1-7.

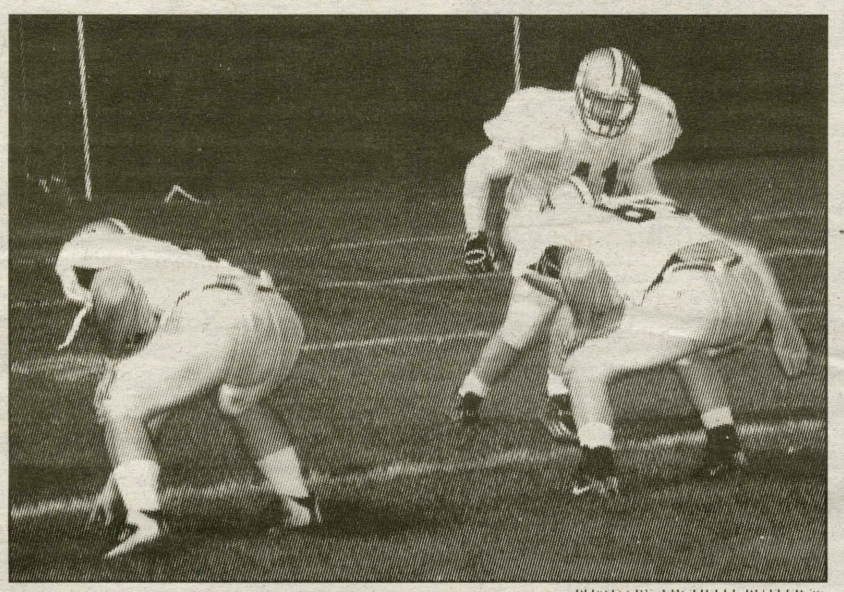

PHOTO BY MICHELLE BUTLER '06

The football team expects a big come-back next year with the help of their new head coach, Steve Stetson.

Agreeing with athletic director Dave Thompson, Rishel expresses that "It's great to have him here at Hamilton."

Hamilton College recently let go of former Head Coach Pete Alvanos and Defensive Coordinator John Keady after another disappointing season. This past season ended with a five-year record of 5-35. Thompson and Paris said that the reason for the action was the need for a more competitive program. Paris told *The Spectator* in November that "[the decision] was not strictly a matter of win-losses. We need to have a competitive program."

Claudius Zorokong '08, a running back, said that he was optimistic about the new coach. "[Stetson will] bring some change. He seems like a very straightforward guy. He's all business and wants to turn things around as soon as possible." Zorokong added, "He knows exactly what he's getting into and is prepared for the job."

News Editor Caitlin Rochford '06 contributed to this article.

Hamilton conducts Youth Poll

by Susan Stanton '09
News Writer

Over winter break Hamilton College, in conjunction with Zogby International, released a national poll about the thoughts of current high school seniors on the issues of gun control, gay marriage and abortion. This was the eighth survey in the Hamilton Youth Poll series.

Professor Dennis Gilbert and students Nathan Vandergrift '08 and Karen Richardson '06 presented their results in Washington D.C. on January 5.

This poll was a project started by Professor Gilbert's Sociology 257 "Using Survey Research" class. The nine-student class began the project by first using a pilot poll, for which they surveyed 100 high school seniors in one week at the Zogby International facilities in Utica. The poll asked students what they would do if one of their own friends became pregnant, according to Richardson. This pilot poll allowed the students to update the surveys from previous polls and expand the section on abortion.

After the survey was finalized, Zogby International polled 1,000 high school seniors from across the country to find out their views on these issues. After the results were established, the class did some of their own analyses, looking at variables and subgroups like religious affiliation, race, geography, gender, political affiliation and whether students lived in a state that voted 55 percent or more for John Kerry or George W. Bush.

The class found religion to be the biggest influencing factor in opinions on abortion and gay marriage, along with whether or not and how often students attended church.

The class found that on the issue of gun control, high school seniors were mostly liberal, like adults, favoring more gun control. Thirty-five percent of high school seniors say they know of someone at their school who has been shot or threatened with a gun. About 90 percent of high school seniors would impose a 5-day waiting period and mandatory registration on handgun purchasers.

The poll also showed that the high school seniors were more liberal than most most adults when gay marriage is concerned. The Class of 2006 is twice as likely to support civil unions as adults. Seventy-five percent of high school seniors favor legal recognition of same-sex relationships, either as marriages or civil unions, and three in four seniors oppose a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage. Sixty-three percent would support adoption by gay couples.

However, the surveys showed that this year's high school seniors were more conservative than adults on the issue of abortion. "The results were surprising, especially in light of the fact that [the students] were so liberal on issues of gun control and gay marriage," stated Karen Richardson '06.

Of the students polled, half said it should be illegal for an unmarried woman under the age of 18 to receive an abortion. The survey group was also split 50/50 on the abortion of a baby that will have a serious birth defect. Richardson explained that there was "an overwhelming support for adoption over abortion."

Seventy percent of females in the class of 2006 say they would not consider abortion if they became pregnant while in high school. Despite these findings, more than 60 percent of high school seniors want the Supreme Court to preserve the Roe v. Wade abortion decision.

The class selected these topics for polling to see how the new generation of voters would feel about upcoming issues in the Supreme Court.

IVORY TOWERS

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Nearing a diploma, most college students cannot handle many complex but common tasks, from understanding credit card offers to comparing the cost per ounce of food.

Those are the sobering findings of a study of literacy on college campuses, the first to target the skills of students as they approach the start of their careers.

More than 50 percent of students at four-year schools and more than 75 percent at two-year colleges lacked the skills to perform complex literacy tasks.

That means they could not interpret a table about exercise and blood pressure, understand the arguments of newspaper editorials, compare credit card offers with different interest rates and annual fees or summarize results of a survey about parental involvement in school.

The results cut across three types of literacy: analyzing news stories and other prose, understanding documents and having math skills needed for checkbooks or restaurant tips.

"It is kind of disturbing that a lot of folks are graduating with a degree and they're not going to be able to do those things," said Stephane Baldi, the study's director at the American Institutes for Research, a behavioral and social science research organization.

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Two Democrats who supported Chief Justice John Roberts said Thursday they would oppose Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito in next week's Senate vote.

The conservative judge is expected to be confirmed, but with fewer votes than the 78 Roberts got in September.

Democratic Sens. Patrick Leahy of Vermont and Ken Salazar of Colorado both questioned whether Alito would be independent of President Bush and the executive branch in his future rulings.

"At a time when the president is seizing unprecedented power, the Supreme Court needs to act as a check and to provide balance," Leahy, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee, said in a speech at Georgetown University's law school. "Based on the hearing and his record, I have no confidence that Judge Alito would provide that check and balance."

Added Salazar in a statement: "Judge Alito would place too much power in the hands of the president of the United States, at the cost of the protective system of checks and balances built into our Constitution.

The Judiciary Committee, which has 10 Republicans and eight Democrats - is expected to approve Alito's nomination Tuesday in a party-line vote.

WORLD NEWS

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The United States has no plans to raise the security threat level because of a new tape of Osama bin Laden saying al-Qaida is planning attacks, counterterrorism officials said Thursday.

The White House firmly rejected bin Laden's suggestion of a negotiated truce. "We don't negotiate with terrorists," Vice President Dick Cheney said in a television interview. "I think you have to destroy them."

Counterterror officials said they have seen no specific or credible intelligence to indicate an upcoming al-Qaida attack on the United States. Nor have they noticed an uptick in terrorist communications "chatter" - although that can dramatically increase or decrease immediately before an attack.

The audiotape, released by the Arab television network Al-Jazeera, brought new attention to the al-Qaida leader after a yearlong lull in his public statements.

The Homeland Security Department said it would not raise the national threat alert at this time. But the tape prompted increased security at Los Angeles International Airport and other precautions at the city's port and water and power facilities.

"At this time, we lack corroborating information suggesting that al-Qaida is prepared to attack the United States in the near term," said Homeland Security spokeswoman Michelle Petrovich. "But we recognize that al-Qaida remains committed to striking the homeland."

The FBI has asked the 103 joint terrorism task forces and intelligence units at its 56 field offices to re-examine its cases and investigative leads in light of the bin Laden tape. "Do you see something in your area of operation that might be assessed as more significant than it was the day before?" said an FBI official on condition of anonymity because he was discussing an internal FBI communication.

The national terror threat level currently stands at yellow, the middle of five grades, signifying an elevated risk of attack. The government has raised the alert level to orange, signaling a high threat risk, seven times since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Changes in Clinton commerce

from ***Tops****, page 1*

was a "low volume, high margin store," which meant that the prices were slightly inflated. Betrus said that this is "not uncommon" in towns with only one grocery store. Because Hannaford will have so many stores in the same general area, Betrus said, "I suspect Hannaford may be slightly more competitive."

Betrus also said that the Clinton Chamber of Commerce had "virtually no involvement" in the switch from Tops to Hannaford because neither was a member of the Chamber. According to Betrus, Tops had been asked to join the Chamber of Commerce, but never did. Hannaford is not yet a member, and whether it will join when it moves into the village is unclear.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

There are already noticable changes to the former Tops building. Construction will last until May, when the store will reopen as Hannaford Supermarket.

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce "represents businesses and organizations in the villages of Clinton, Clarks Mills, Westmoreland, Franklin Springs and the Town of Kirkland," according to its website. Betrus said that while he has served, he has tried to make the Chamber "community responsible." This includes improving Town-Gown relations by supporting Hamilton's Fall Fest.

Some other major changes will also be taking place in Clinton. Kinney Drugs, a chain of drug stores in New York and Vermont, is in the process of building in the lot that used to house the Tobin Chrysler-Saab dealership. That construction is almost complete, according to Betrus. CVS Pharmacy, currently located on West Park Row in Clinton, will move into the same lot as the future Hannaford.

According to Betrus, the old CVS building has already been purchased, but he did not know by whom.

Regional Community Relations Coordinator for Hannaford Rebecca Howes declined to comment.

Phelan, Reynolds, Brewer promoted to professor

from ***Promotions****, page 2*

she received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. She is active on and off-campus, and her fascination with technology, society, and the media lead her to numerous publications and her first book: *Mediation and the Communication Matrix*. The book has been "widely praised as exceptionally strong, well-written, and of great significance to the field," Dean Paris said. While working on her second book, she also helps to coach Hamilton's Debate Team as well as coordinate public speaking competitions (January 26th at 4:30 p.m. in the Red Pit is the next contest).

Always curious and wanting to explore life she says, "I really am fascinated with teaching, and I am never going to presume that I have learned enough about it. And I am always interested in exploring new classrooms, new approaches, new pedagogies and certainly new ideas, whether it is the ideas of the discipline or the ideas students bring to that discipline." To the students, it has been said she can be "demanding, even notoriously challenging," Paris said. However, she is always available for outside guidance "and for setting a positive tone in class (perfect interaction, lots of exchanges)."

Professor Reynolds graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Victoria, Canada. He hopes that his best qualities are that he is "approachable and clear" in his subject matter; two characteristics that go into teaching well, he feels.

Dean Paris certainly concurs: "Students truly do respect and admire him as a teacher and mentor."

"For example," he continues, "one student writes, 'anyone who can make invertebrate subjects such as tubeworms and sea cucumbers come alive for a college student should be commended.'"

Reynolds's outside research is world-renowned, particularly on the biology and systematics of scaphopods. He has produced numerous ground-breaking publications and is also the editor of an international journal, Invertebrate Biology, the oldest biological journal in the world, touting 125 years. "It's nice to jump the hoop and know everything is on track," he says. He has also served on several major committees, including chairing the CAP and acting as faculty secretary. He has large research projects and grats in the works and, he is waiting to continue exploring in the field.

For all these new Professors, the promotion is much appreciated, but they are eager to get back to doing what they love. Phelan says, "Being awarded full professor is a lovely moment, but it is just a moment. Of course I celebrate it, but then I turn and its business as usual which means there's the next chapter to write and the next student to talk to and the next class to teach and that's what I really love. So I am deeply appreciative of the title and value it, but I value more my interaction with students on an ongoing regular basis."

Hamilton works to clean up water

from ***Water****, page 1*

heads down in the winter. During mid-winter is when it's at its lowest, then it will start creeping back up in March, April and May," Robertaccio said.

According to Robertaccio, contamination of Hamilton's water is the result of the amount of time it takes the water to travel from the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) to the College, the higher-than average temperatures experienced in the region during the summer of 2005 and the type of disinfectant currently used by MVWA.

"The problem is that Hamilton College buys its water from basically the tail end of the system, so the water sits in the pipes for the longest amount of time possible," Robertaccio told *The Spectator* in October. "It then goes through a dedicated pipe to Hamilton College, which is around 2 miles long, which means it sits in the pipe for an extra day."

Steve Bellona, Hamilton College assistant vice president for facilities and planning, explained that the College is working to shorten the period of time water spends in the pipes, thus decreasing the formation of THM.

"The only thing we have a possibility of doing is reducing the amount of storage time in our system," Bellona said. "The first part is we have a storage tank of one million gallons, of which we use a quarter of per day when students are on campus."

When classes are not in session, such as during the summer and over winter break, less water is drawn out of the system, meaning the water stays in the system for a longer period of time.

"When students are not there, the water sits in the pipes a lot longer, which makes a bad situation even worse," Robertaccio said. "It's a slow process, but when you're not moving much water it makes it a worse situation."

On January 10, the College flushed out the water system by allowing the water to run for 18 hours, filling the tank and allowing the water to flow out.

"Before everyone came back we started pumping where we at least flushed out all the pipes for the College, plus filled up our own tank and flushed a couple hundred thousand gallons out the top to flush the main piping system coming into the system on campus," Bellona said.

According to Bellona, College officials measured THM levels "immediately afterwards" and found the levels had decreased to 45.5 parts per billion, well below the EPA's maximum allowable level. The test was conducted by the same laboratory that does Hamilton's quarterly tests for the OCHD. Because this test was not an official quarterly test, however, the reading does not count towards the annual running average.

Bellona was optimistic about the next quarterly test in March, but warned the annual running average from the previous four quarters will likely remain above the EPA's maximum allowable level.

"It's very positive for us. It's cautionary only in the sense that I anticipate that when we do our quarterly test in March, even if we have a reading in the 40s or in that range, that we will still be in violation of the maximum allowable levels, because what they [the OCHD] read, even though we have an individual test and we're doing the right thing, it's based on an annual running average of the four quarterly tests that we have," Bellona explained. "We'll still be in violation because our running average is still in excess of 80."

Bellona asserted that Hamilton hired an engineer to assist College efforts to monitor the situation and keep the THM levels down.

"Our goal right now is to continue to try to address our current issues and try to understand what we've got and see if we can manage it and devise a protocol that allows us to manage levels under the maximum allowable limit," Bellona added.

The Hamilton community was first alerted to the problem on October 13 when Bellona issued a public notification via e-mail as required by the OCDH. In that e-mail, Bellona explained that the Health Department measured 180 parts per billion of THM in Hamilton's water on August 10. At that time, the figure was 78 parts per billion higher than during any other test done over the past year, a deviation particularly attributed to extremely high temperatures during July and August.

Studies have linked long-term exposure to THM to an increased risk of bladder and colorectal cancers. Additionally, some studies have linked THM exposure to reproductive problems, including miscarriage and an increased risk of birth defects.

Want to write for news?

E-mail Caitlin at crochfor@hamilton.edu

The Spectator

Michael Cleary was the first Hamilton alumnus to die while serving in the Iraq war, but he was the 2,360th American lost. Serving your country is one of the greatest honors there is; yet, it is unfortunate that we have lost so many young men and women. Michael's family tells a story of an outstanding man, compassionate toward others and well liked by all. This is just one of 2.360 similar stories of young Americans who felt the need to serve their country. Every story is one of sacrifice and love of country. For all members of the Hamilton community, it is truly an honor to have been a part of Michael's story.

After obtaining his degree from Hamilton, Michael entered the Army in service of his country. Regardless of your political beliefs or affiliations and what you think about the war in Iraq, Michael's decision was a brave and honorable one. After his graduation in 2003, a world of possibilities was open to this fine American. Michael could have chosen a career on Wall Street, on Capitol Hill or at a prestigious law firm. Yet, with his degree in hand, Michael chose to forgo those opportunities to join the other fine men and women in uniform. Michael made a selfless, patriotic decision, knowing the risks involved. In the end, that decision ended his life, a life full of endless potential and untapped wonder. The Hamilton community, each and every one of us, should be proud that we helped produce a man like Michael Cleary.

As we turn on CNN or FOX News, many of us have become accustomed to hearing news of another American killed in action. With well over 2,000 now dead, it can by easy to forget the men and women behind the numbers. But, it is obvious to those in the Hamilton community that Michael Cleary was more than just number 2,360. He was a son, a brother, an uncle, a godfather and a fiancé. He was a man, an economics major, a Hamiltonian and an American. Michael was a friend, a hunter, a fisherman and an athlete. Like the others who've died for their country, Michael was a true patriot, a man deserving our utmost respect. We hope that, if nothing else, this tragedy can remind us that those that have given their lives for their country and those that will make the ultimate sacrifice in the months and years to come are real human beings with families, friends and pasts. Thank you, Michael, not only for you contribution to this country, but for reminding us that there is more to war than just numbers and news reports. Thank you, Michael, for reintroducing us to humanity.

The Spectator

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Cleary dedicated to family, friends

from ***Michael****, page 2*

age, as his father entered the College with the Class of 1968, took a year off to serve in Vietnam, and graduated with the class of 1970. His sister Erin graduated from Hamilton as well, with the class of 1991. She described how she would often go home on weekends to take care of Michael, who was only a kindergartener when she entered her freshman year. She mentioned how friends from Hamilton would sometimes accompany her home and loved having the opportunity to play with her little brother. He would frequently "hang with all the big kids," said Erin, "He was a little brother to so many people."

Of his decision to attend Hamilton like his big sister and father, Shannon said that it was completely his own: "Some people will tell you [that he went to Hamilton] because he was a legacy and because he was following my father's footsteps…but never was there a Cleary boy who could not make their own decisions. He had personal reasons for it and they were his own…and it was the right place for him."

At Hamilton, Michael was very involved, as both a student and a friend as well as in his fraternity Sigma Phi, sports and student government. Those who knew him described Michael as extremely dedicated and determined in everything that he did. Michael's father recalls how his son worked in landscaping over the summers. "He worked his way up from a shovel to running heavy equipment," said Mr. Cleary. He went on to say how Michael would operate the backhoes at Hamilton to help clear away the snow after the plows came through. He remembered one of Michael's co-workers telling him that "Mike was the first one to show up," when snow fell on the campus and "one of the last guys to leave."

Michael, an economics major, was very dedicated to his classes as well. His senior thesis advisor, Assistant Professor of Economics Steven Wu recalled how Michael was "always eager to learn."

"He always came into my office with a bright smile," continued Wu. "There was often a lot of work to do [but Michael was] not at all shy to go ahead and do what he needed to do. He never complained about the large amount of work."

Associate Professor of Economics Ann Owen knew Michael as well. She described his thoughtfulness of and caring for others: "In his senior year when he was working on his thesis, which is a little bit of a group project where all the students who are doing an honors thesis meet together, he was not only working on his own [thesis], but helping other people too."

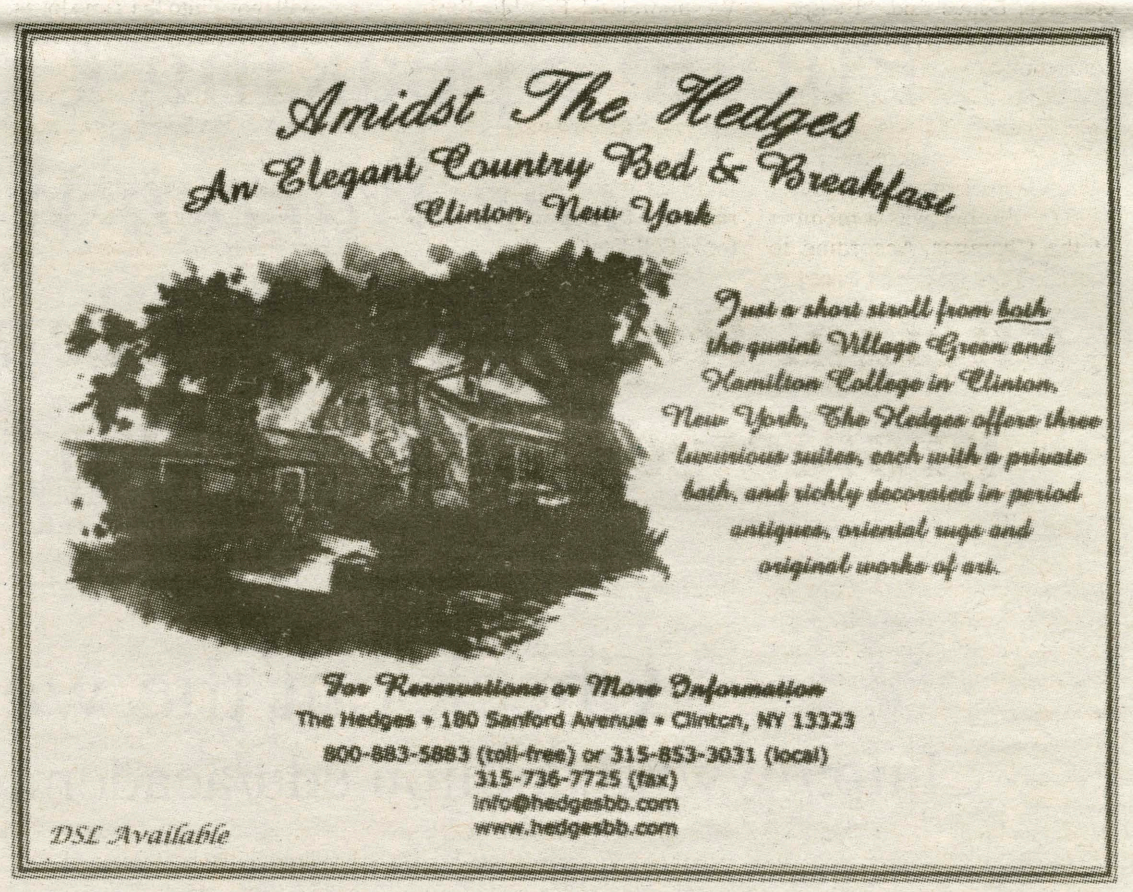
Those who knew him said time and again how Michael always took time for those around him. He always made time to "stop and check in even when on the way to the library," said his father.

He was never too busy for anyone, according to Erin, "He would take the time to look you in the eye." Those close to Michael also recall his frequent smiles and sense of humor. "He was the funniest guy," continued Erin. "He could make anyone laugh."

Erin also spoke about his relationship with his fiancee, Erin Kavanagh: "He was very much in love…they were so ready to start this wonderful life together."

"She was the right one," said Shannon of Michael's fiancée. "She's full of life and they've known each other forever. They didn't find this relationship until just before his deployment…each of them had always kinda had another but were friends. They met back up over break in November 2004 and something was aflame. It was good, it was real."

Michael lived his entire life in the moment and in very real way. "In a Bible that he gave to my youngest son before he left [for Iraq]," said Erin, "he wrote: 'Live and love as much as you can because you only play this game once.' And he did."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Senior Gift 75% Deadline – March 3rd
Trustee Reception for Senior Class – March 3rd, 6 p.m. in the Hub
Senior Gift 90% Deadline – April 20

• **CONGRATULATIONS!** We blew past our 50% participation deadline on December 9 (achieving an unprecedented 60% participation before the second semester) and have now earned a total of $3,000 in challenge money from the Trustees. When we reach **75% participation by March 3rd**, we will receive ***another $3,000*** in trustee challenge money.

• Remember that you may make a donation in honor of someone who has made an impact on your Hamilton experience: a faculty member, family member, administrator or peer.

• If you don't want to contribute to the gift – give to the Annual Fund. It will still help us towards our 100% participation goal.

• It's easy to make your gift: E-mail us to (srgift@hamilton.edu) find a Senior Gift Committee representative in person or do it on-line, TODAY: **https://www.hamilton.edu/makeagift/.**

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Class of 2006 Internship Fund

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The Warren Wright
The McKinney
The Clark

Check out the web site:
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Information Session:

Thursday, January 26
KJ Red Pit · 4:30 p.m
Refreshments will be served.

Insights & Ideas

Confessions of a Jan-Admit

by Jason Barth '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

It was mid December of 2004 and my foot was tapping as I waited to hear from Hamilton College. Even though I applied early, the wait seemed impossibly long. Finally, I got a letter. It was a flat envelope, and inside there was a single piece of paper. I opened it and began to read.

I was overjoyed as it became clear of my admittance, until I read something that dampened the excitement. I didn't quite understand what the letter said: I had been admitted for the spring semester starting in 2006. Being 2004, that seemed pretty far off!

Reading on, it explained that although I applied Early Decision they were not able to offer me a place until January, and that our contract was broken, but they still wanted me to come.

To say the least, I was surprised, having never heard of a January admission before. The letter said that someone would send me more information about studying in the fall and my options. I decided to wait and see what they had to offer.

As the months went by I learned of a voluntary program that would send the other January admits and me to Ireland for the opportunity to study at the University of Limerick. The credit would go towards graduating at Hamilton. This didn't seem like such a bad deal. I weighed the options: going to Ireland and getting credit, but missing freshman fall and joining activities and meeting everyone. After all, I applied to Hamilton, not Limerick!

The more I thought about it, this seemed like a pretty good deal. I would still get to go to my number one choice while spending some time learning about another culture, getting credit, and having a unique experience that I could take a lot away from. I decided to go because I loved Hamilton and would do whatever in the fall so long as I ended up there.

As the summer came to a close, all my friends left to their respective colleges and I waited. I was leaving in three days and it hit me that I was about to go away to college. Not a college four hours of driving away, but across the ocean.

Putting it mildly, it was a daunting idea, but my anticipation snuffed out any worries I may have had. One thing that really helped me is that I went on Adirondack Adventure (AA) during the summer, so I already knew some of the people going to Ireland.

While some may say that packing for college is hard, packing for college in two duffels is excruciatingly difficult! Upon arriving we were immediately thrown into the Irish culture for an amazing time, especially with the new friends we made. We spent the first couple of days in Dublin getting acclimated, then moved directly into the school dorm. We each had five housemates, all sharing a kitchen and two bathrooms. It was relatively close to campus and the only Olympic sized pool in Ireland.

We learned the hard way that anything within a half an hour walk is close, and that when the Irish go out, they Go Out. We were very involved in the school and participated in campus clubs from trampoline club, to judo, to debate, to ping-pong. We had a great overall experience and managed to make a lot of Irish friends along the way, who I'm sure many of us will visit.

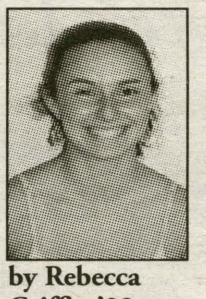
Being "Jan admits" gave us the opportunity to preview the abroad experience and it was a great life experience having to find our way through a foreign system on our own. A great time was had by all!

Traveling to Ireland allowed us to create strong bonds of friendship with the whole group. Now we are all going through a strange transition.

We arrived on a campus that is new to us, but home to everyone else. What could be a daunting experience has been eased due to the Hamilton community's kindness and friendship. Everyone has been so interested and outgoing, wanting to learn about our experiences and meet us, that it has made for a smooth move.

Although we have only been here for one week, it feels like months. I can safely say that we are all glad to finally arrive and know that our experiences abroad will help us to gain perspective and move forward into our new home.

Dear Hamilton Helper



by Rebecca Griffin '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

Dear Hamilton Helper:
My friend has a new roommate who is a January admit. So far I've barely spoken to her and neither has my roommate. She doesn't seem that interested in getting to know us at all. Is there anything we can do to try and get her to open up to us?
- Addled At Admit

Dear Addled:
This girl just arrived on campus and is probably just getting used to the campus. If she seems hesitant to talk it might just be because she's still uneasy at her new school. All you can do is try and make her feel included and hopefully when she becomes more adjusted she'll open up more. You could try locking her in a room until you feel that you've gotten to know her sufficiently but giving it time would probably make her more comfortable.

Dear Hamilton Helper:
I'm really upset that Commons no longer a pasta bar. If I wanted stir-fry, I'd go to McEwan. What can I do to bring back the pasta?
- Livid Linguini Lover

Dear Livid:
You should write on the discussion board in Commons. The dining hall staff put it up for issues such as this. If enough people complain maybe they'll bring the bar back. If they don't then you could always go on a hunger strike. After all it worked for Gandhi, right?

Thumbs up

- Tuesday Boozeday showing that at least one Hamilton tradition is still alive.

- The contaminated water eliminating the need for Durex on campus.

- Genny Cream Ale: The best beer to be brewed since Utica Club.

- Your class roster looking like a Bundy party invite list.

Thumbs down

- Having to adjust to Commons in more ways than one.

- Hopping back on the thesis train.

- Listening to your new iPod on Martin's Way to avoid talking to the people from your threesome last night.

- Seniors realizing they only have 4 months left to knock off all those empty boxes on their hook up list.

- How crowded the gym is. Good thing New Year's resolutions only last a month.

by Jessie Gaylord '06
and Whitney Bull '06

Who cares

- How your break was.

- How many times I've used that joke.

- Jan Admits...traveling in packs of 12 doesn't make you blend in.

- Your new wardrobe: They're going to end up on someone's floor anyway, why bother keeping them clean?

Left! Right! Hamilton, let's fight!

This week's topic: Domestic Surveillance

by Nicholas Berry '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

It was recently revealed that President Bush ordered the National Security Agency (NSA) to secretly monitor private phone calls made by American citizens in an effort to intercept terrorist plots. On the surface, this domestic spying seems reasonable because most people expect the government to actively hunt down and foil terrorist activity. The NSA wiretapping has sparked controversy because it has been monitoring these phone calls without a warrant. Wiretapping without a warrant is an illegal violation of the civil liberties granted by the Fourth Amendment.

Americans, therefore, are outraged by the NSA's practice of spying without going through the normally required legal channels. The White House has supported the wiretapping, stating that it is an essential tool in the war against terror. According to the Bush administration, obtaining a warrant for these wiretaps would jeopardize the entire operation, which depends on speed for success.

Proponents of the wiretapping cite numerous instances throughout history in which presidents have suspended certain civil liberties during times of war: Lincoln suspended habeas corpus during the Civil War, and FDR forced Japanese-Americans into internment camps during WWII. In past cases, the Supreme Court has also ruled that our civil liberties are not absolute and can be suspended in the interests of the public good.

According to a recent article in the *New York Times*, the FBI has reported that most of the leads that have emerged from the wiretapping have been dead ends. In addition, a judge, responding to the contention that obtaining a warrant significantly slows down anti-terrorism activities, stated that he and other judges are on call 24/7 and that the time it takes to issue a warrant would not place an unnecessary burden on federal agencies.

Both of these revelations suggest that the emphasis the President has put on wiretapping without a warrant may be misplaced. Perhaps it would be better if the president reevaluated the efficiency and effectiveness of intelligence agencies. Since faulty intelligence was one of the major contributing factors to the September 11th attacks, money used to fund wiretapping would probably be better spent on improving intelligence agencies and the quality of the information they provide.

More faulty intelligence will not help make our country safer. Furthermore, Bush should seek ways to improve legal processes if they are a hassle, not find ways to get around them. There are many logical ways in which to expedite the warrant issuing process, especially if the evidence is as strong and credible as he claims it is. There are probably many judges who would be willing to stay close to NSA facilities and to be on constant notice so that warrants could be handed out faster. Yet, it is wrong to say that following the law is a burden because protecting American liberties is never a waste of time.

The issue of illegal wiretapping runs much deeper than whether or not the government has received a warning. The fact that the President, the highest elected official in the U.S. and the leader of the free world, would knowingly break the law and then publicly defend his actions is much more troubling than the NSA not obtaining warrants for its wiretaps. When the Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution, they wanted the government to have enough authority to carry out its duties, but they did not want it to be all-powerful.

Consequently, they included many provisions in the Constitution that would prevent the government from overstepping its authority and protect the people from governmental abuses. They envisioned a federal government in which the three branches would have separate powers and would be in constant conflict with one another, encouraging them to utilize their checks on the other branches.

It is very unsettling to see the President act as if he is above the law and to hear his supporters advocate the idea of a "unitary executive," a clever euphemism for dictator. In fact, it seems as if the President is slowly taking over many of the powers given to the other branches. With all three branches of government controlled by a single ideology, the elaborate framework developed by the Founding Fathers seems to be rapidly disappearing. Unless Congress and the Supreme Court stand up to the President, then he may soon yield unchecked power.

As the President gains more and more political power in Washington, an early Bush quote becomes more and more frightening: "If this [America] were a dictatorship, it would be a heck of a lot easier…just so long as I'm the dictator."

In fact, as his administration goes into its fifth year, it has become increasingly clear that this suspension of rights is more for the President's personal agenda than the war effort. As Americans are asked to give up more and more of their freedoms in exchange for our protection, we must ask ourselves what we are being protected from. If the U.S. continues down this slippery slope of trading in civil liberties so that the government can expand its power, then the America the president claims to be protecting may no longer exist.

By getting rid of our civil liberties, Mr. Bush is taking away the elements that define the U.S. and replacing them with the elements that define our enemies: dictatorship and tyranny. Just because presidents have suspended civil liberties in the past during times of war doesn't mean that we must do so in the present.

The Founding Fathers wanted these decisions to be the joint effort of all three branches of government, but today they are based on one man's judgment. If we, as a people, fail to rise up and demand our freedoms, then there may come a day when the government has too much control of our lives. The Soviet Union had an expression for this scenario: "Big brother is watching." Let's hope that this expression is never changed to "George W. is watching."

by Benjamin Noble '08
Insights & Ideas Editor

Over Christmas break, the leak of President George W. Bush's 2002 executive order to authorize the National Security Agency (NSA) to monitor people, without warrants, inside the United States sparked a contentious national debate. Domestic surveillance on people believed to be linked to Al-Qaeda or its affiliates raises many questions on illegal leaks, national security, and civil liberties.

On January 16, 2006 former Vice President Al Gore characteristically could not stop himself from jumping into the national spotlight. Gore's address to the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy and Liberty Coalition was similar to many of his previous post-Election 2000 speeches. In his hour speech in Washington, he shifted from excessive dullness to wildly angry rhetoric assaulting the Bush administration and the rest of the government.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AP

Former Vice President Al Gore scolds President Bush in Washington on January 16, 2005.

In his address, Gore denounced Bush's secret domestic eavesdropping program. He continually accused Bush of breaking the law and disregarding Americans' civil liberties. Gore also called for an independent investigation on the matter.

In light of former President Bill Clinton's warrentless searches and wiretaps, Gore's grandstanding was excessively hypocritical. In the early 1990s, the Clinton/Gore administration authorized the FBI to search and wiretap CIA turncoat Aldrich Ames' home without a warrant. Of course Gore did not include this information in his speech.

Gore also did not mention in his address the illegal publication of the leaked classified information. The 2002 executive order was classified and thus concealed from the public. However, in December 2005 the *New York Times* illegally published the story, revealing the secret program. According to their speckled past, it is typical of the biased *New York Times* to illegally publish highly classified information that threatens our national security. President Bush correctly stated on December 17, 2005 that, "As a result our enemies have learned information they should not have, and the unauthorized disclosure of this effort damages our national security and puts our citizens at risk. Revealing classified information is illegal, alerts our enemies [and] endangers our country."

Some Democrats are forgetting that the United States is currently at war with ruthless radical Islamic terrorists willing to do anything to kill Americans and their allies. The Republicans and President Bush have not forgotten. Consequently, Bush is doing everything within his *lawful* power to thwart future attacks.

President Bush's domestic surveillances on members or associates of Al-Qaeda are legally justified. Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the Constitution makes the President Commander in Chief with the responsibility to protect the Nation, especially in times of war. Electronic surveillance, both here and abroad, is a vital tool in the War on Terrorism.

Congressional response after September 11, 2001 also justifies the surveillance. On September 14, 2001 Congress passed the Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF). Section 2(a) of the AUMF permits the President to "use all necessary... force against those nations, organizations or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the [9/11] terrorist attacks." In other words, it gave the President the authority to do whatever it takes to protect Americans.

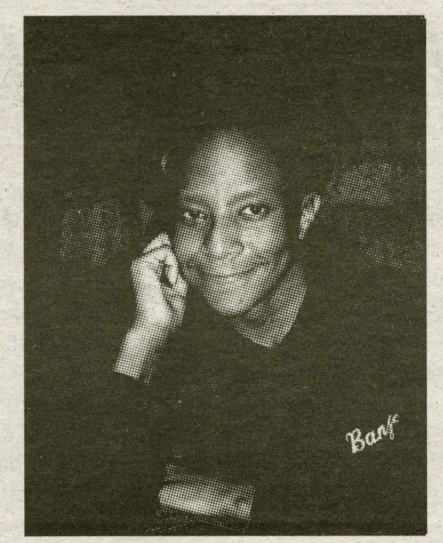
Regardless of its legality, the electronic surveillance of phones and e-mails of suspected Al-Qaeda members/associates has prevented terrorist attacks. General Michael Hayden, the Principal Deputy Director for National Intelligence, revealed in a December 19 press conference that the NSA surveillance program "has been successful in detecting and preventing attacks inside the United States."

Bush's domestic surveillance infringement of civil liberties pales in comparison to John Adams' Alien and Sedition Acts during the Quasi-War, Abraham Lincoln's suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* during the Civil War, Woodrow Wilson's Palmer Raids during and after WWI, and Franklin Roosevelt's Japanese internment camps during WWII. During war, losing some small civil liberties is vital for national security and achieving victory. The electronic surveillances are only trying to find out, as Bush frankly put it, "If somebody from Al Qaeda is calling you, we'd like to know why."

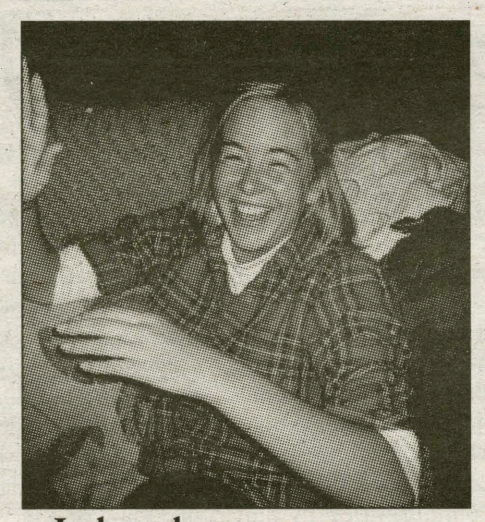
The threat of terrorism inside the United States remains very serious. The majority of Americans support domestic surveillances with warrants to prevent future terrorist attacks. Although Bush's NSA warrantless wiretaps are legal, he probably should have obtained warrants just to avoid this political controversy.

Despite the outrage of liberals, such as Al Gore, President Bush should continue to use what ever means necessary to defend Americans in these troubling times.

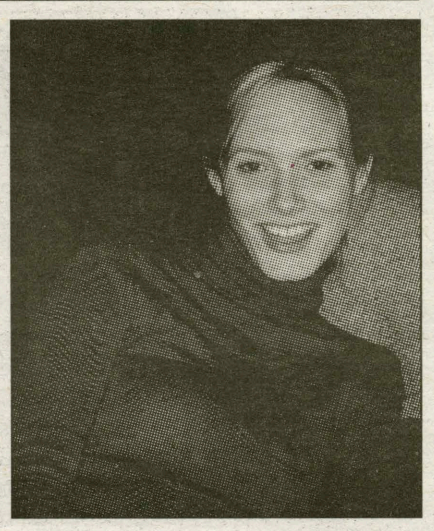
Took a vow of abstinence, but Sunday night back on the hill brought that vow right on down.
~ Lizzy Finan '08



To perform nude more, and I'm working on it. I've got a show next Thursday.
~ Joshua Hicks '07



I plotted out a spontaneous 2006 day by day.
~ Colleen Granahan '08



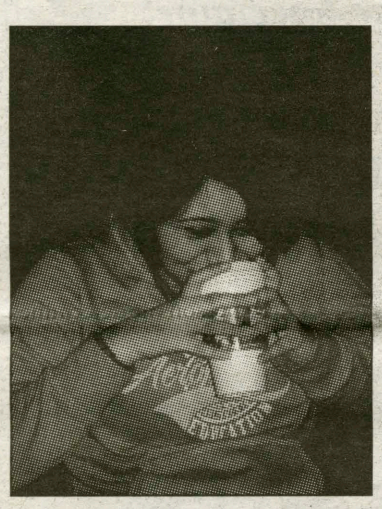
To brush my hair once a week, and to match my socks. It's been rough.
~ Victoria Jenkins '09

Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question:

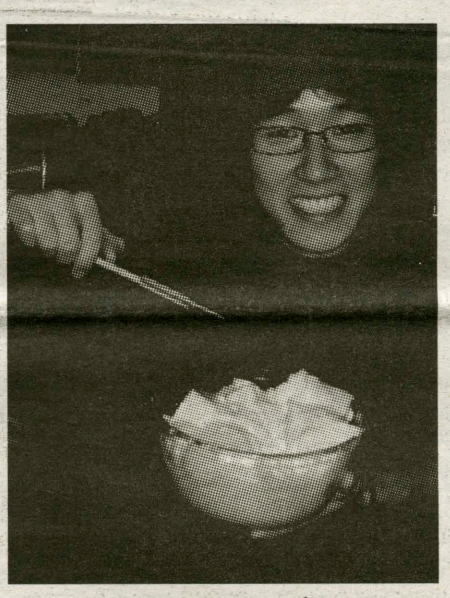
What is your 2006 New Year's resolution, and have you kept it up?

by Michelle Butler '06 & Eric Kuhn '09



To make new friends, and I will start by stalking people on facebook.com.
~ Razeena Shresdha '09

To travel more... to Amsterdam.
~ Elena Filekova '08



To get over my butter addiction, but it's so hard to resist when I'm making cookies at Opus.
~ Jae Lee '07

To drink as little carcinogenic Hamilton water as possible.
~ Tidelco Ductan '09

Letters to the editor policy

THE SPECTATOR'S **LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, *THE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:**

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4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Features

Focus on Fitness: Alcohol on the Hill

by Michelle Butler '06
FEATURES WRITER

If you can, for just a brief painful moment, go back to the end of last semester and remember just how stressed you felt. You may have pulled a couple all-nighters to finish those last term papers, and you might have spent entire days in the library desperately cramming for a final because you stopped reading for the class after three weeks into the semester. And seniors finishing up their theses…well, they had it the worst.

So when your last piece of work or exam was complete, did you kick back and relax to music or the TV? Did you pack up your things as quickly as possible and scurry on home? Or did you, do as many Hamilton students do, party hardy with your peeps Keystone Light, Jack Daniels, Smirnoff, etc.?

To kick off my health/fitness column for my last semester here at Hamilton, I thought I'd touch on a topic that all college students are quite familiar with: alcohol. I admit that in the past, I have relied on alcohol as my stress-buster and as a way to free myself after weeks of work-related tension and sleepless nights. At the end of my freshman year winter finals, I walked straight back to my room and pounded 7 straight shots of raspberry Smirnoff with a friend, and on an empty stomach. Needless to say, though I felt wonderfully giddy at first, it wasn't a good night.

I partied quite frequently that year, as did a good majority of my class, so it seemed only natural to celebrate the end of the semester by ingesting a large amount of vodka, regardless of the consequences I suffered later that night and the next morning.

Unfortunately, this becomes a pattern for us overworked, overstressed students. We work hard knowing that the weekend holds endless opportunities to play hard. And we deserve to play hard because we work so hard. Every weekend is a booze-filled celebration. Sometimes we even drink heavily during the week, because we've worked hard or were stressed during the day, and don't have much to do the next day, so we decide to drink up.

I'm saying all this in the present tense, as though this is something I still do, when in fact I've pretty much stopped this common behavior. I still like to hang around the pub on a Tuesday or Thursday night to see my friends, though I usually head off to bed early since I have this habit of getting up at 6:55 a.m. every morning. Although I try to be social when I'm not too exhausted, I never drink during the week anymore. Sometimes I'll have a small glass of wine, but this obviously pales in comparison to freshman year when I was drinking heavily four nights a week. And although I do go out most Saturdays, I really don't drink all that much then either.

So what changed me? I'd like to think that as I've grown older, I've matured and my health has become more important to me. I am always working to maintain the best physical and mental health possible to increase my longevity, alertness and overall happiness. Heavy drinking seriously compromises those things, and I am no longer willing to sacrifice my health just to get wasted. I have plenty of fun while sober or with one glass of wine, usually more so than if I've been pounding the mixed drinks at an open bar.

Please note, before I go on, that I certainly don't pass judgment on anyone for drinking, especially since I passionately covet my daily glass of red wine, an Italian family tradition that I absolutely love. But I do have concern for the binge drinkers who compromise their health by constantly enduring some of the nasty side effects of excessive consumption. I also think about how people are going to manage stress when they get out of college and into the real world, where drinking a few nights a week becomes harder to do without having consequences on jobs, relationships, families, etc.

The negative effects of alcohol on the body are ones we hear about over and over again, but I thought I'd mention them just to reiterate my point. One of the biggest reasons I've cut down on my own drinking is that I hate the typical hangover symptoms: the dry mouth and headaches. Dehydration is just a short-term effect, but the long-term effects are much more serious. Several types of cancers and the liver disease cirrhosis are caused by chronic, excessive alcohol consumption. So to some health providers, alcohol might be seen as this evil toxic substance.

However, good news has arrived in the nick of time as cardiovascular disease has become the number one killer in America. Doctors now say that moderate drinkers (those who have one alcoholic beverage a day) have the lowest mortality rates. When taken in moderation, alcohol actually promotes heart health, and could possibly reduce the risk of kidney cancer and lymphoma. One drink a day can also reduce stress and anxiety. Yet keep this is mind: it doesn't mean that if you abstain from alcohol during the week, you can or should drink all seven servings on Saturday night!

So, although I too am guilty of binge drinking, and often see alcohol as an unhealthy substance, I've learned that alcohol can be beneficial as well. The key word to remember here is moderation. I've found that sitting with my parents in our living room as we sip on red wine is one of the most relaxing and enjoyable moments of my day. The same goes with meeting the girls at the pub for a glass of wine, or having a glass with dinner. I now enjoy wine not just because of that woozy and warm feeling I sometimes get from drinking it, but because it's good for me, and I am always in good company. Thus it contributes to both my physical and mental health.

Like I said earlier, I don't hold judgment on those who drink more than I do, because most of my friends do, and it's what works for them. As for me, I'm looking forward to my next single glass of Shiraz.

Write for *The Spectator*!

Send all ideas for the Features section to Whitney Kimmel (wkimmel) or Emily Maltby (emaltby)

Senior dance projects

by Laura Dick '06
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

The Hamilton College Department of Dance will present senior projects in dance on Friday January 27 and Saturday January 28 at 8:00 p.m. in Minor Theater. The performances are free of charge and open to the public. The event is in partial fulfillment of the dance major and features choreography by Valery Danilack '06 and Laura Dick '06. The show begins with "$(toe)^2$," which combines both ballet and tap dancing. The second dance is entitled "La Primavera" and is classical ballet choreographed to music from the motion picture "Love Story." The final piece, "Sunrise," has a contemporary jazz style, and uses chairs, hats and pieces of fabric to complement the movement and music. Performers in the show include Valery Danilack '06, Laura Dick '06, Jane Fitzgerald '07, Jennifer Kahn '06, Madeleine Leder '08, Sarah Levitan '08, Fiona MacQuarrie '09, Megan Malone '06, Dyrdra Martin '06, Danielle Pastuszak '08, Lindsay Ann Rubenstein '07, Reagan Sayles '07, Amanda Siegel '09, Mary Ann Vicari '06 and Blythe Winchester '08. *Editor's Note: For more information please e-mail Laura Dick (ldick), Valery Danilack (vdanilac) or Hamilton's Dance Department.*

PHOTO BY WHITNEY KIMMEL '08

Valery Danilack instructes her dancers during an evening practice.

Sudoku puzzle of the week

by Evelyn Shapiro '06
FEATURES WRITER

Hundreds of newspapers around the world have been publishing daily Sudoku puzzles that push people to use logic and reasoning skills. People from all over have found themselves addicted to Sudoku and countless websites are now devoted to the subject.

The Sudoku puzzles that have taken the world by storm started in Japan as a form of crosswords. *Su* means "number" in Japanese and *doku* means "bachelor" or "single," so loosely translated, Sudoku means "single number."

The rules of the game are easy. Just place the digits 1 through 9 in the cells of the puzzles so that each digit appears only once in each square, row and column.

	2		6			9		
6			5					7
	7					6	8	5
		1		4	7		6	
		8				1		
	3		8	1		4		
5	4	7					9	
9					4			2
		2			3		4	

From *Super Sudoku, Book 2*, by James E. Riley, PhD. Published by Good Year Books, 2005.

Beyond Keystone: The Okemo Trailmix

By Jesse Gaylord '06
and Jeff Dixon '06
FEATURES WRITERS

Every year, our group of friends journeys to Jeff's trailside condo in Ludlow, Vermont for a couple of days of skiing and debauchery. This tradition begun our freshman year and was comprised of a small group of friends and has snowballed into a sixteen person demolition crew. The mornings always start off a little awkward as we awake in each other's beds with a haze of memories from the previous night and the aroma of hot tub chemicals wafting through the room. As breakfast is prepared by Jeff and his girlfriend Jamie, and the hangovers start to wear off, we hit the slopes in anticipation of slaying the gnar gnar pow pow.

After lunch things usually start to get a little freaky. Every year we like to dress up like ass-clowns for a little something called "Alternative Ski Wear Day." Think GS suits from childhood, neon one-pieces from the back of your mother's closet, jeans, flannels, cowboy hats and a massive banana suit found in a dumpster. Yet, our favorite part of the day is reminiscing in the condo about our encounters on the slopes over a frosted mug of cheap beer. Over the years, there has been a single brew that has come to define the Okemo experience. That beer is Plank Road Brewery's "Icehouse." Today we will taste this cult legend and two other beers we have learned to appreciate at altitude in hot tubs: Genesee Premium and Genesee Cream Ale.

"Over the years, there has been a single brew that has come to define the Okemo experience. That beer is Plank Road Brewery's 'Icehouse.'"

When trying to think which beer to start with, the "Legend" was the clear-cut choice. First a little history on how we came to develop a tender lover for Icehouse. Freshman year, as we were all underage, we got a tip from a local that a Sunoco 25 minutes away is very liberal in their sale of brew to underage girls. As we approached the gas station, our friend that we will refer to as "Camo" sacked up and bought two 30 racks of the House that Ice built. Fortunately, at 5.5% alcohol/volume, this purchase was the perfect accident in the beginning of a dynasty.

At this point, you might have noticed we have written a lot of history; this is because there is not a lot to say about this beer. The taste is unremarkable but inoffensive at the same time. In other words, it's very drinkable with not a lot of satisfaction. This brew is best enjoyed from the can in order to restrain its offensive hues. Yet, for the price and the fact that it is an "ice" beer, Icehouse is a good choice for getting together with friends and having a good time. We love Icehouse because it satisfies our discerning tastes as well as those people who aren't as into enjoying a fine micro brew.

With a flood of memories and foggy flashbacks, we cracked a Genesee Premium. Surprisingly, it took a trip to Vermont to discover this semi-local brew. The beer is brewed in Rochester by the High Falls Brewing Co. Genny Premium usually makes an appearance around day two or three when we deplete the supermarket's supply of Icehouse. We could go so far as to say that Genny Premium is the ultimate understudy. Although we never noticed until this tasting, Genny Premium lives up to its premium name with its varnished maple hue.

The cold aged body on this premium beer is noteworthy for a brew almost as cheap as Stones. We picked up a 12-pack of long necks for $5.69 plus tax and deposit. While this beer may be a blue square all-star, it can charge our Double Diamond Okemo crew both on, but mainly off, the slopes.

Finally, we broke out the newfound secret weapon. This brew was introduced to us this year by Eddie Bossange, who epitomizes all that is male. The Boss bought the 30 rack as a joke, thinking it would induce vomiting from its nasty taste. Seeing that we didn't drink a single can in Vermont, Eddie instructed Jeff to bring it to ski team training in order to build fortitude with the 12oz curl.

This brew, Genesee Cream Ale, was an immediate cult hit. This award winning, classic recipient of multiple World Beer Cup gold medals is a damn patriot and champion of the cause. It combines the flavor of a fine ale and the smoothness of a premium lager. The subversive malt character adds an element of complexity unmatched with beers in this price range. Jeff would describe the taste as that of a toned down Guinness: not as sweet, not as heavy, more drinkable. The beer also offers a respectable malt aroma with a hue reminiscent of fresh pine sap. While brought to us as a joke, Jeff can say that it is his new number one budget brew. This beer will be a staple of our Senior spring semester and ski trips to come.

"The taste is unremarkable but inoffensive at the same time. In other words, it's very drinkable with not a lot of satisfaction."

While we can't fit all of you in Jeff's condo, we invite you to sample these fine brews we have presented. Beers like this aren't about the experience of the beer, but the experiences they induce. These three brews are our picks for availability, drinkability and widespread satisfaction. Overall, while Icehouse will always have a special place in our hearts, Genny Cream Ale might be the best cheap beer we've ever had. As we complete our stay at Hamilton and notice that the school has lost many of its traditions, we urge you to show a little local spirit. Back in the 1970s, Utica Club and Genesee reigned supreme as the beers of choice on Hamilton's campus. We should stop drinking this corporate water, Keystone Light, and go back to our roots with the Cream Ale and possibly Utica Club. UC has enjoyed a cult revival on campus in the last few years, and it's time for Genny to take its rightful place atop the Hamilton beer hierarchy. This weekend we urge you to seek out Genny Cream Ale and Utica Club. And as always, friends don't let friends pass Stones.

Weekly Events: Where you want to be!

Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.
Last Day for Seniors to Declare Minor	MLK Service Day (11:00)	Newman Mass (1:00)	Biology Seminar (4:00)	Newman Mass (12:00)	First Steps to Finding a CRE (12:00)	Newman Mass (12:00)
Last Day to Add a Course	M. & W. Track v. Nazareth HOME (12:00)	Scottish Highland Dance (2:00)	HOC Open Hours (7:00)	CACC Meeting (3:00)	C.A.B. Meeting (7:00-8:00)	QLit Sign-Up and Info Meeting (4:00)
B.S.U. Meeting (5:00)	Anime Club (2:00)			W. Basketball v. William Smith HOME (6:00)		HOC Open Hours (7:00)
W. Ice Hockey v. Trinity HOME (7:00)	M. & W. Swimming v. Amherst HOME (2:00)			M. Basketball v. Williams HOME (8:00)		CAB Acoustic Coffeehouse: Mark Geary and Brett Dennen (8:00)
CAB and LateNite Presents Alex House and Meat (10:00)	W. Ice Hockey v. Trinity HOME (3:00)					NESCAC Improv Asylum Event (8:00)
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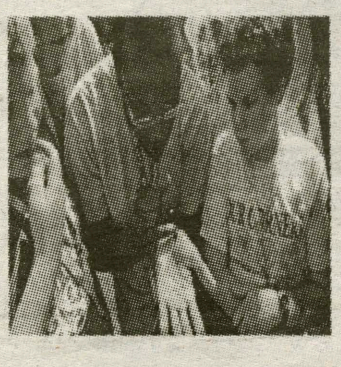

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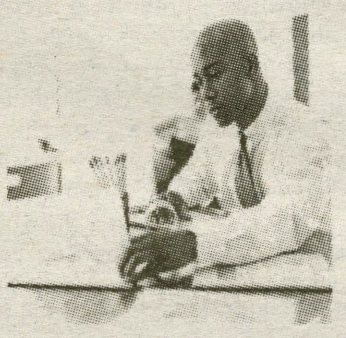

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MUNICH ▲4:20-7:30 R

HOODWINKED! *#1 MOVIE!*
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●12:05●2:25▲4:45-7:10-9:35 PG-13

FUN WITH DICK & JANE — *JIM CARREY*
●1:15●3:15▲5:15-7:15-9:15 PG-13

HOSTEL ●1:00●3:10▲5:20-7:35-9:45 R

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA:
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The Buzzcocks made Manchester a punk rock city

By Katherine A. Jurras '06
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Buzzcocks were formed by a group of teenage boys in Manchester, England in 1975, who had no way of knowing that they would one day be known as one of the most influential punk bands to emerge from Britain. Inspired by the then popular punk band the Sex Pistols, the Buzzcocks created a pop-inspired sound that was less angry and more accessible.

The Buzzcocks were formed by guitarist and former metal-band member Pete Shelley and Howard Devoto. The two met at a meeting of an electronic music society of which they were members. They also shared an interest in the Velvet Underground and formed a band with a drummer while they were still in college.

The band reformed after Shelley and Devoto went to see a live Sex Pistols concert in London and were extremely moved by the sound. Their goal in forming the Buzzcocks was to create a similar sensation in Manchester that the Sex Pistols had formed in London. At the concert they met Steve Diggle, a bass player, and later John Maher joined the band as a drummer.

Shelley and Devoto changed their names (originally Peter McNeish and Howard Traford) and chose the band name from a phrase in a magazine. By 1976, the Buzzcocks had played a few gigs, including opening for the Sex Pistols. In fact, later in the year they joined the Sex Pistols on their Anarchy tour. Within that year the Buzzcocks helped to establish Manchester as the second biggest punk rock city in the United Kingdom, after London.

After the Anarchy tour was over, the Buzzcocks borrowed money to help fund the cost of a self-recorded debut E.P., entitled "Spiral Scratch." In fact, they were the first band to self-release an album, and it started a kind of era for punk bands. Although the album was quite successful, Devoto left the band shortly after its release to return to college. This left Shelley as the band's lead vocalist. Devoto later went on to form a band called Magazine.

In 1997 United Artists Records offered the Buzzcocks a deal that would allow them total creative control of their work. Taking advantage of this freedom the band released a song called "Orgasm Addict." Although BBC radio refused to play the song due to its explicit content, it created enough of a buzz on its own to become somewhat popular. Steve Garvey joined the band for the release of its first chart-topping single, "What do I Get?" At the end of 1977, the Buzzcocks produced their first real album, "Another Music in a Different Kitchen." This album was followed shortly by a second, titled "Love Bites."

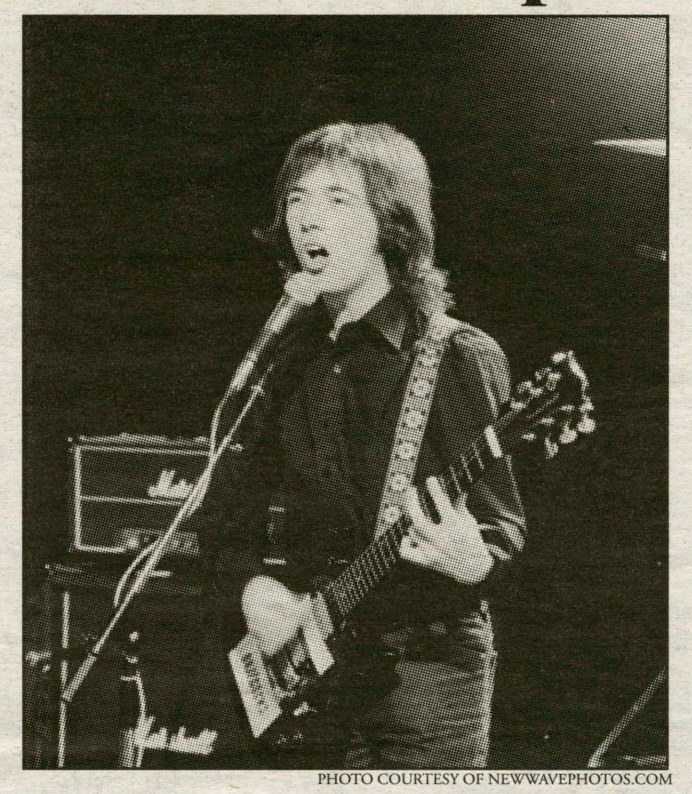

PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWWAVEPHOTOS.COM

The Buzzcocks began their career in the '70s by touring with the immensely popular Sex Pistols.

With success came stresses: the band members were drinking heavily and using drugs. Some of this stress was expressed with the release of the Buzzcocks' third album, "A Different Kind of Tension." The band went on a tour in the United States, which was unsuccessful, and returned home to their fans in Britain. Nevertheless, a singles album was released in the United States. Despite the band's popularity in England, the Buzzcocks never really caught on in the United States.

Because of the growing tensions caused by such a busy schedule, the band cut back on performances and focused more on recording. They released the E.P. "Parts 1, 2, 3," which they released in parts throughout 1980. It was in this year that the Buzzcocks began experiencing conflicts of interest with their record label. This conflict prevented the Buzzcocks from successfully releasing a fourth album in 1981, and instead of fighting the record label, the band members chose to split up.

Some of the members attempted solo efforts, and later with the addition of several new members, a new Buzzcocks was formed. In 1993, the new version of the band released "Trade Test Transmissions," which was followed by a tour. "All Set," was released a few years later, and then "Modern" would be the band's sixth album.

Although the Buzzcocks were much more popular in the United Kingdom, their popularity spread across several decades and the band was a huge influence for a range of bands, including American bands like Nirvana. A wildly popular band, the Buzzcocks played a huge role in music history.

"King Kong:" A real big ape

By Noah Wright '08
Arts & Entertainment Writer

I eschew my normal Asian Movie Review column at the beginning and end of the semester for a single review of one Hollywood film of the previous season and a top ten list respectively. The winter season's movie I've decided to review is none other than the big ape himself, "King Kong."

I saw the midnight screening of this film at the insistence of a friend. Yes I had a final that counted for 50% of my grade in the class the next day, but hey, he was insistent. I recall a conversation I had leading up to the film's premiere:

Insistent friend: I've never been so excited for a movie in my life!

Other friend: The movie I was most excited for was "Episode One."

Me: The movie I was most excited for was "Matrix Reloaded."

Insistent friend: Um, yeah, I was excited for those, too. But this one won't suck!

How reassuring. Doubly reassuring was the complete emptiness of the theater when we arrived. Granted, we had come an hour early at the insistent friend's insistence, but an hour early is a matter of course when it comes to most midnight screenings (damn you Harry Potter, and the sexiness of your jailbait stars!)

Anyway, back to King Kong. It was freaking amazing.

I don't think I've ever seen such a varied, visceral reaction from an audience, alternating between tears, terror, revulsion, sympathy and awe. This movie has everything you could ever want from a film: action, romance, comedy, adventure, a giant ape fighting a tyrannosaur and the most disgusting scene in the history of PG-13 cinema. To this day I shudder every time I see a large insect.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELBAKIN.NET

King Kong was one of this winter's biggest movies.

It baffles me as to how the opening of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" could outgross that of the Eighth Wonder of the World. Daniel Radcliffe and Emma Watson's pedophilic appeal is no match for Naomi Watts's stunning beauty, Thomas Kretschmann's rugged good looks, Kong's brute masculinity, Adrien Brody's arousingly gigantic nose and Jack Black's... um, not sucking at serious acting.

Plus, for all you movie dorks out there, the whole thing, in addition to being spec-expletiving-tacular, is riddled with references to the original. Fret not, those of you with social lives, you don't need to have seen the original to appreciate the sheer awesomeness of the film. You especially don't need to have watched the awful seventies remake, and if you have, I'm sorry.

So, if you haven't seen this movie yet, what the hell is wrong with you? The three hours just fly by if that's your problem.

Panic! At the disco for the new year

By Nicole Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Of all the resolutions that you will make this New Year, and all of those you will break, listening to new music should be one resolution that you should keep. This in mind, we should remind ourselves that trying new things is good, and that Panic! At the Disco is a cool new band.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BIGHASSLE.COM

Panic! At the disco is a band with odd haircuts and superfluous punctuation.

Their freshly released album, "A Fever You Can't Sweat Out," Panic! is exciting and definitely not what you'd expect. With music that is a cross between techno dance music and witty lyrics and chords, this is one band you definitely will be caught tapping your foot along to.

Signed by Fueled by Ramen, also the record label for bands such as Bayside and Fall Out Boy, this four man band is currently touring the United Kingdom with The Academy Is...

With fun song titles such as "Lying Is The Most Fun A Girl Can Have Without Taking Her Clothes Off," "I Constantly Thank God For Esteban," and "It's Time to Dance 'Cause Boys Will be Boys" as well as catchy lyrics (When I say "shotgun," you say "wedding"/ shotgun wedding/ shotgun wedding.) Panic! At The Disco is one band worth keeping on your list of new music for the new year.

"Hoodwinked" is a comedy that appeals to all

By Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

I refuse to listen to other, supposedly professional, movie critics who claim that although this movie is acceptable for little children, adults will find it tedious. I believe that "Hoodwinked" is the funniest movie I have seen in a really long time, and as such, it deserves to be appreciated.

My friend John defines this movie as, "the poor man's 'Shrek'" because the animation is not quite as smooth, and the movie take-offs are not as subtle. Even with these flaws, "Hoodwinked" is the wonderfully tragic story of Little Red Riding Hood taken from four perspectives: Red (as she is referred to in the movie), Granny Puckett, Wolf and the lumberjack.

One of the main lessons, or morals, that most animated movies tend to have, is that not everyone is who they seem. Red desires to see the world beyond being the delivery girl in the forest, Granny is an extreme sport athlete, Wolf is an investigative reporter and the lumberjack is a schnitzel (on a stick) selling actor.

And now we have come to the "bad guy." I admit that I am not the most observant person in the world, so when I saw a cute little bunny named Boingo, I just thought he was a cute little extra. Halfway through the movie I finally realized that he was the villain (yet another example of appearances).

This shouldn't have surprised me as much as it did when I remember that Andy Dick does the voice for Boingo. There is no way that Andy Dick would play just a normal cute bunny.

Boingo raises the question of why there would even be an evil villain. Well, it's because of the "Goody Bandit" of course! Local bakeries and dessert shops have been closing all throughout the forest because the "Goody Bandit" has been stealing all of the recipes.

I would have thought that the bakers would have memorized all their recipes, but hey, what do I know? Anyway, Granny Puckett, of course, is the most famous baker in the woods. She has her own business, and she even has a costume designed after her. It only seems logical that the "Goody Bandit" will come after her famous book of recipes. In order to prevent the theft, Red decides to bring the book to Granny for safe-keeping. Red meets Wolf in the woods, meets him again at Granny's house, discovers Granny tied up in the closet, and the lumberjack comes flying through the window screaming. The police become involved and the investigation is led by Detective Flippers.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAG.AWN.COM

"Hoodwinked" is a somewhat less well-crafted version of "Shrek."

One important thing to remember while watching this movie is to not take it seriously on any account. It is a very corny movie and has many puns. The soundtrack alone demonstrates this. For example, Red is depressed because she believes that her grandmother has been deceiving her, so the lyrics to the song are "because Red is blue...."

Viewers also have to have patience with the numerous movie take-offs. Granny, for instance, has the tattoo "GGG" on the back of her neck, and says things like, "What up my homies?" There are also parts from "Spiderman," "Boondocks Saints," "Lilo and Stitch," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves," "Charlie's Angels," "Clockstoppers," "Dick Tracy" and all the "James Bond" movies.

I hope that you actually go out and see this movie because otherwise you will be missing out on a wonderful experience.

The drama, the laughter, the tears (from laughing so hard), the love and the over-caffeinated squirrel named Twitchy are all perfect reasons to see it. So go now.

Mohawk Valley Dance Partnership at Hamilton

By Michelle Reiser-Memmer
Performing Arts Coordinator

The Hamilton College Contemporary Voices and Visions Series opens the spring season with a Mohawk Valley Dance Partnership presentation of the Taylor 2 Dance Company on Saturday, January 21, at 8 p.m. at Wellin Hall in the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARCHIVES.THEDAILY.WASHINGTON.EDU

Paul Taylor's Taylor 2 dance company will perform at Hamilton on Saturday

Paul Taylor established Taylor 2 Dance in 1993 as an offshoot of the larger Paul Taylor Dance Company to ensure that his works could be seen by audiences all over the world, unhindered by economic or logistical limitations. Taylor worked with longtime colleague Linda Hodes to create a company that could accommodate performance requests as well as teach and provide community outreach.

Taylor looked back to the 1954 origins of the Paul Taylor Dance Company for the structure of his new company: six professionals who perform his work and teach his style to people of all ages.

In selecting repertoire for Taylor 2, Taylor chooses dances that span the broad spectrum of his work. Several of the dances performed by Taylor 2 have been reworked from the Paul Taylor Dance Company's version to enable the smaller ensemble of dancers to perform them. Critics and audiences cheer as Taylor 2 introduces the athleticism, humor and range of emotions found in Taylor's work.

Taylor 2 has conducted multi-week residencies in Cleveland and at Skidmore College, SUNY Buffalo and SUNY Geneseo, and has taught more than 200 master classes throughout the New York City Public School system. Taylor 2's domestic touring has included an unprecedented 22-city tandem tour (with the Paul Taylor Dance Company) of Wisconsin in 1996 and a statewide tandem tour of Alaska in 1997. The Company toured throughout Pennsylvania in 1998 and South Carolina in 1999.

In addition to a full length evening performance, there will be a pre-performance workshop titled "Creative Connections: Exploring the Choreography of Paul Taylor."

Free and open to the public, the pre-performance workshop is sponsored by the CNY Arts in Education Institute and will provide an insight into the evening's dance works performed by the Taylor 2 company. It will be held in List 106 at 7 p.m.

Jane Tavalin Schwartz, dance teaching artist and Colgate faculty member, and AEI director Lesley Tillotson will facilitate the workshop.

This performance is a project of the Mohawk Valley Dance Partnership, which combines the talents and resources of three community partners: Hamilton College, the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute and the Central New York Community Arts Council's Arts in Education Institute. The performance is made possible, in part, by the New York State DanceForce, a statewide consortium of choreographers, arts organizations, presenters and educators.

Administered by The American Dance Asylum, Inc., DanceForce programs include artist residencies, community outreach activities, and other programming that links artists and communities across New York State. DanceForce receives major sponsorship from the New York State Council on the Arts. Additional support is provided by Altria and JP MorganChase.

Tickets for this event are $18 for adults, $12 for senior citizens, and $5 for students. Special discounts for Munson-Williams-Proctor members and group discounts are available. All seating is general admission.

For more information or to order tickets call the Hamilton College box office at 859-4331 or the MWPAI ticket office at 797-0055 or (800) 754-0797.

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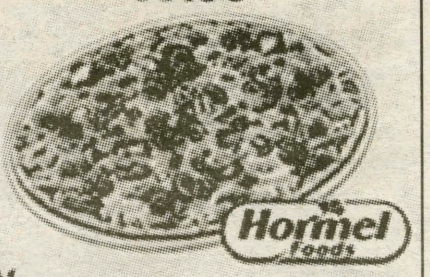

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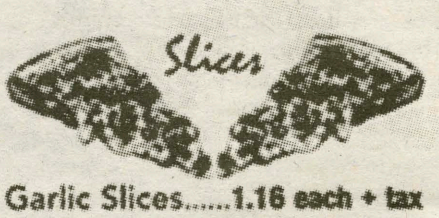

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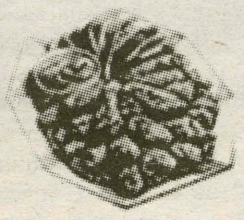

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Science & Technology

Proposed drilling in Arctic Teshepekpuk Lake Area met with opposition

by Anne Schlesinger '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Drilling for oil in the arctic has been a topic of heated debate in recent months. The *New York Times* reported that although a Democratic filibuster last month closed the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil exploration and drilling on January 12, the Interior Department moved to open 389,000 acres of land to the west of ANWR. The parcel of land is part of the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPRA). It is also the summer destination of thousands of migrating birds and caribou, not to mention an important hunting ground for the Inupiat.

The decision reverses the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska 1998 compromise made by Bruce Babbitt, interior secretary in the Clinton administration. While Babbitt opened all but 13% of the reserve, State Director of the Federal Bureau of Land Management in Alaska Henri Bisson claimed that the remaining 13% could contain up to three-quarters of the oil in the reserve.

In 2003, the Bush administration authorized the full-scale development of the Teshekpuk region for oil exploration. Since then, according the Sierra Club, over 8.5 million acres surrounding the lake have been leased or developed for oil and gas production. Last Thursday's decision opened up seven tracts of 40,000 to 60,000 acres in the remaining area to new development.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANIMALS.TIMDURU.ORG

Drilling in the NPRA would effect migrating caribou and bird species.

Bisson argues that the BLM has taken "the best environmentally sensitive approach." For example, the amendment calls for "No Surface Occupancy" zones that would remain free of roads and other surface features of oil exploration and drilling to provide safe passage for migrating caribou and nesting birds. Critics of the decision, however, claim that regardless of what precautions are taken exploration and subsequent piping, roads, and general human activity will harm the tens of thousands of birds that migrate there every summer from California, Japan, Mexico and Russia.

The Inupiat remain critical of the decision as well. The *New York Times* reported that a local Inupiat woman was concerned "that taking water from Teshekpuk and other lakes to build ice roads for winter construction could affect all animals involved."

Sara Callaghan Chapell of the Sierra Club in Alaska stated, "Thousands and thousands of birds, caribou, grizzly bears and other wildlife live in the Western Arctic's rich and unique habitat. By eliminating protections the wildlife and the native peoples that depend on them for their subsistence way of life have been put at risk."

Meet the Geek of the Week!

by Nancy Shaw '07
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

If you or someone you know is a science or math major and deserves the honor of Geek of the Week, email Nancy at nshaw@hamilton.edu.

Name: Heather Parker

Concentration: Physics

Class year: 2007

Why physics?
I have one word: Toys.

Do you have a favorite physicist?
Its' hard to say, but I named my teddy bear after DeBroglie.

What is the best thing about the new science center?
The fact that we can pretty much move into the physics common room and live there. There's also a lot of free room to play games, like dropping pennies off the fourth floor.

What are your feelings on the subject of charged rods?
All I can think of is 'Rod up the z-axis'.

How much time have you spent contemplating cat/buttered toast propulsion?
In my whole life? Probably over three consecutive hours.

Jones's quantum class: good, bad, or really tasty?
Really tasty. Most definitely.

Any geeky hobbies?
World of War craft. And lots of it.

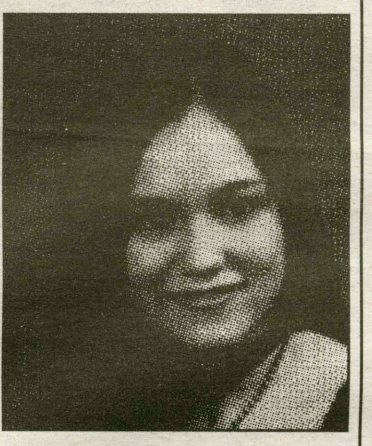

PHOTO COURTESY OF HEATHER PARKER '07

Geek Heather Parker '07. In her spare time Heather enjoys gaming, listening to heavy metal music and solving Rubik's cubes.

Science Editorial: The effect of food advertising on the childhood obesity epidemic

by Laura Trubiano '07
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

The issues involved in advertising food to children have recently become greatly contested as the obesity epidemic in America begins to take its toll on children. Increased food advertising and the decreased nutritional value of these foods are believed by many to be a contributing factor to this problem.

Obesity is caused by more calories being consumed than are burned off and the excess calories turning to fat. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), children are considered obese if they are above the 95th percentile for their age and gender in the Body Mass Index (BMI). The prevalence of obesity over the last two decades has more than doubled in children ages 6-11 and tripled in adolescents ages 12-19. Taking into account the number of those considered "at risk" for obesity, these percentages nearly double.

If these trends continue, the life expectancy of the next generation will be lower than that of their parent's generation due to the health risks of poor nutrition and obesity. One-quarter of children between ages 5 and 10 already have high blood pressure or high cholesterol, both early warning signs for heart disease. Type 2 diabetes, which is closely linked to obesity, was previously considered an adult disease (often known as "late-onset" diabetes); however, there has been a dramatic increase of this disease in children and adolescents.

Childhood is the time to take precautions for avoiding obesity, as overweight adolescents have a 70% chance of becoming obese adults. In addition to health risks, overweight children often have low self-esteem or suffer from depression as a result of social discrimination.

Several factors affect children's diets and food choices, including things like convenience for working parents and sub-par school lunches. However, recent studies have shown that food marketing directed at children plays a key role in what children choose to eat.

The reason many experts and parents place blame on the food industry and advertising is due to the sheer number of ads for food that children are exposed to daily; of all the factors that contribute to this problem, it is hardest to ignore the $2 billion industry. More often than not, the foods advertised are sugary, high fat snacks and cereals. The number of different ways food companies have found to infiltrate children's every day lives is astounding.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TELEFLORA.COM

Experts believe increased advertising of unhealthy foods has contributed to the growing obesity epidemic in children.

The most common form of advertising to children is television commercials. The average American child views 40,000 commercials annually, and over half of these are for food. One study documented approximately 11 food commercials per hour during Saturday morning cartoon programming. Furthermore, studies have shown that the nutritional content of advertised foods is getting worse. A 1998 study found that 41% of advertised foods (excluding fast food ads) fell into the fats, oils and sweets category. Advertisers also use print ads, internet sites and celebrity endorsements to sell products.

Recently, more research has been done to better comprehend children's understanding of advertising, and study after study has proven that marketing to children is effective. Children do not understand the persuasive intent of advertising until around age 12. The amount of marketing to children has significantly increased as companies have realized this fact.

Studies prove that children are affected by advertising more than adults. They are an easy target for food advertisers, and with the realization that children influence millions of dollars in spending each year, the companies are capitalizing on this fact. There is legislation that protects children from tobacco advertisements because smoking has extreme health risks. The numbers of deaths related to obesity are quickly catching up to those related to smoking. Where is the legislation to protect children from *this* health risk?

With all of the medical advances in recent years, it is disheartening that future generations' life expectancies may decrease as a result of obesity. It is a problem that can be controlled, and if food companies will not take the initiative, then the federal government should step in. In some countries, including Sweden and Greece, advertising aimed at children is banned completely or controlled by federal law. Currently, the United States federal government has not issued any restrictions on advertising to children. The numbers show that obesity in children is increasing at an alarming rate and it is a pressing issue that deserves immediate attention.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Bowdoin beats women's hockey

by John Cloonan '07
SPORTS WRITER

While students were packing their bags last week, the Lady Continentals were packing their skates and pads. Traveling to the home of the Bowdoin Polar Bears, the Conts soon found out that this nationally ranked team (#10) was not in hibernation.

This was the second ranked foe the women had faced during their 5-day road trip, and resulted in their 3rd straight loss. Fatigued from such a long, arduous road trip, the women were outscored 5-0. This came as the second shutout of the season, and will certainly be used in the future for motivation.

Despite the long trip, national rankings and general fatigue, the team battled hard against the Polar Bears. With help from a tough defense, and Caitlyn Connelly '07 in goal, there was no score in the first period.

From there, however, the long road trip began to take its toll. Three goals were scored in the second period, and two more in the third to cement the loss. Connelly finished the game with 28 saves out of 33 shots. The Continentals were 0 for 7 on the power play, and had 16 shots on goal.

However, numbers alone do not explain the entire game. Having played multiple games in a small window of time, the women put forth a solid effort. It goes without saying that this spirit of persistence will benefit the Lady Conts in the end. They will take the ice, fully rested, tonight when they take on Trinity College.

Men's track starts fast

by Eileen Starrett '07
SPORTS WRITER

The men's track team is off to a great start this season. They have already had two members of the team earn Liberty League accolades. TiDelco Ductan '09 was named Rookie of the Week on both December 12 and January 16. Jesse Gaylord '06 was named Co-Track Performer of the Week on January 16.

In terms of competition, the team started off their season by sending some members of the team to compete at the Cornell Relays. The relays were held on December 3 versus many Division I schools. Hamilton did well against fierce competition. The highlights of this meet were Ductan earning a fourth place finish in the triple jump while setting a Hamilton record; Kyle Graham '06 finishing in fifth place in the pole vault; and James Russell '09 earning an eighth place finish in the same event.

More recently, the men's track team hosted Union College and Hartwick College last weekend. The continentals finished in first place in no less than 14 events the day before classes. The team's impressive finishes won them the meet with 164 points. Second place Union earned 104 and Hartwick only earned 28.

Versus Union and Hartwick, the team was led by a strong and talented senior class. Graham took first place in the pole vault and Bob Group '06 won the high jump.

Jesse Gaylord '06 took first place in the 500 meters and Rich Schwam '06 won the 400 meters as well. Jay Russell '06 won the 55 meter sprint and Will Lynch '06 won the 200 meters.

Talented juniors, sophomores and freshmen also did well. Rob Taylor '07 captured a win in the 3,000 meters. Ductan won both the long and triple jumps. Matt Everett '08 won the weight throw and Allan Guiney '08 was victorious in the 1,500 meters. Finally, Will Bartholomew '08 finished first in the 1,000 meters. The team also won the 800 and 1,600 meter relays.

Winter sports are tough because of the school schedule. A month of vacation can make or break a team. Judging the results of the team's most recent meet however, it doesn't seem as though anyone took a real vacation.

Gaylord commented: "We all went into break knowing that if we put in some work, we could end this season as one of the top teams in the state. As a result, I think everyone made an effort to hit the gym and the roads in order to guarantee that they would be in great shape coming into the season. While Hamilton's weather is not always nice we still tough it out on the roads. As the great runner Emil Zatopec once said, 'There is great advantage in training under unfavorable conditions. It is better to train under bad conditions, for the difference is then a tremendous relief in a race.'"

Similarly, Graham said: "I was able to practice three times a week with Coach Tine (my pole vault coach) over break which really helped me focus on some technical aspects of the vault that will lead to clearing bigger heights this year."

Commenting in the team's goals for the remainder of the season Gaylord said: "My goal as captain is first and foremost to have all our athletes perform to the best of their abilities. When everyone is healthy and doing all they can to better themselves as individual runners, the team championships fall into place. In order to succeed though, we all keep in mind a quote from marathoner Tom Fleming: 'Somewhere in the world, someone is training when you are not. When you race him, he will win.'"

Hamilton will stay in the central New York region for the following two meets; next weekend they will host Nazareth College and on January 28 they will be at Colgate.

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well.

	Nick Rockwell *Spectator* Sports Editor	Ian Mandel *Spectator* Senior Editor	Ben Noble *Spectator* I & I Editor	Emma Furman *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief	Andrew Small Sophomore Squash Player
Season Record:	**0-0**	**0-0**	**0-0**	**0-0**	
NFL Playoffs					
Pittsburgh @ Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Pittsburgh
Carolina @ Seattle	Carolina	Seattle	Carolina	Seattle	Seattle
Men's NCAA Basketball					
#25 Iowa @ #12 Michigan State	Michigan St.	Michigan St.	Iowa	Iowa	Michigan St.
#17 W. Virginia @ #16 UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	W. Virginia	UCLA	UCLA
#20 Syracuse @ #9 Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse
South Carolina @ Kentucky	South Carolina	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky
NBA					
Cleveland @ Utah, 1/21	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	Utah	Cleveland
Philadelphia @ Minnesota, 1/22	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Memphis @ Miami, 1/24	Miami	Miami	Memphis	Miami	Miami
NHL					
NY Islanders @ New Jersey, 1/21	New Jersey	New Jersey	Islanders	Islanders	Islanders
Detroit @ Colorado, 1/21	Detroit	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado
NY Rangers @ Boston, 1/21	Boston	Rangers	Rangers	Rangers	Rangers

Women's track enjoys success

by Eileen Starrett '07
SPORTS WRITER

The women's track team has had some success in the New Year. This past weekend, the women competed versus Hartwick and Union. Strong first place finishes from many members of the team sealed the deal for the women at home.

Akilah Bond '09 won the long jump and the triple jump. Jessica DeMichiel '09 won the pole vault, setting a new school record. Jenny Orbaker '07 won the high jump, Kary Pardy '08 won the weight throw and Rachel Bennek '07 was victorious in the 500 meter run. Sarah Downey '07 had a first place finish in the 500 meter run. Gen Flanders '09 was victorious in the 1,500 meter run while Kristen Selden '09 won the 55 meter hurdles.

These first place finishes helped Hamilton amass 150 points. Second place Union had 105 and Hartwick was a distant third with 31. This tri-meet was a great showing and sets the team up nicely for a dual meet at home versus Nazareth this weekend.

Members of the women's track team have also earned Liberty League accolades. Bond was honored as Rookie of the Week for the second week in a row on January 14 as a result of her dual win in the long and triple jumps. Jessica DeMichiel '08 was chosen as Co-Field Performer of the week on December 14 as well. On the twelfth, Rachel Bennek '07 was honored as Runner of the Week, an admirable feat considering the competition.

Commenting on the rest of the season, Bennek says: "I am really excited for the season. I think everyone is prepared and eager to get into the highly competitive meets."

Allison Nichols '06 voiced similar sentiments: "I want everyone to have fun, but also take the sport seriously. It would be great to have a lot of girls qualify for the state championship meet. I think we're off to a wonderful start. If everyone keeps working hard, it shouldn't be too difficult."

Look for the Continentals to compete at home this weekend in a dual meet versus Nazareth. The team looks to continue their strong showing in both field and running events.

Women's hoop downs Vassar

PHOTO BY AMY CONROY '06

by Eileen Starrett '07
SPORTS WRITER

The women's basketball team came back last weekend with a strong win against Vassar. The Continentals have had a tough run as of late, with some losses versus SUNY Oswego, Amherst and RPI.

In their game versus Vassar, the team was led by Madelyn McGuinnis '09 who scored 17 points and had five rebounds. Erin Daugherty '06 got off to a roaring start with 12 points in the first half alone. She played well outside the arc making 3 of 4 three-pointers, which contributed to her 15 total points. Sydney Fasulo '09 was unbelievable in the paint, tearing down 10 rebounds for Hamilton.

The night before their win versus Vassar, tough play versus RPI unfortunately wasn't enough. Pumla Sathula '09 had 12 points and 12 rebounds which earned her a third double-double for the season. Daugherty grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds and also had 4 steals. McGuinnis used her height to block three shots.

Despite the team's strong play in the past few games, they are only 1-3 in the New Year. Co-captain Daugherty commented on the team saying: "we are expecting to play very well in the second half of the season. We had a lot of momentum going into the break and the team looked good. Once we returned on January 1, we had to work to get back to the level we left off at. Things should go well for league play!"

Co-captain Jessie Pisegna '06 voiced similar sentiments: "For the second half of the season I expect to win! We will be playing teams in the Liberty League who should be more at our level and more beatable. I hope to upset a few of the better teams because we are starting to get into the flow of things and the younger kids are getting the experience they need. Games are no longer a nerve-wracking thing, so we can perform and play as we should."

Looking ahead, the Continentals have two tough games versus Union on Friday and Skidmore on Saturday.

Commenting on these games, Pisegna added: "Union is always a competitive game, but they have not been producing as they should be this season, so I hope to come out strong and aggressively and get a win. Skidmore should be a win, but you never know. I always tell the team to just go out there and play basketball. Don't make it so complicated and we should be just fine."

Daugherty also shared Pisegna's thoughts and said that "Union was in the top four teams last year and every team in the league is always harder to beat on their home court. Skidmore is not as competitive but still nothing to look past. If we play the way we are capable, we should come out with a couple of wins."

Hopefully the Continentals will return to the Hill late Saturday with two wins and confidence to help them continue to succeed in the remainder of their season.

Men's Bball now 10-2

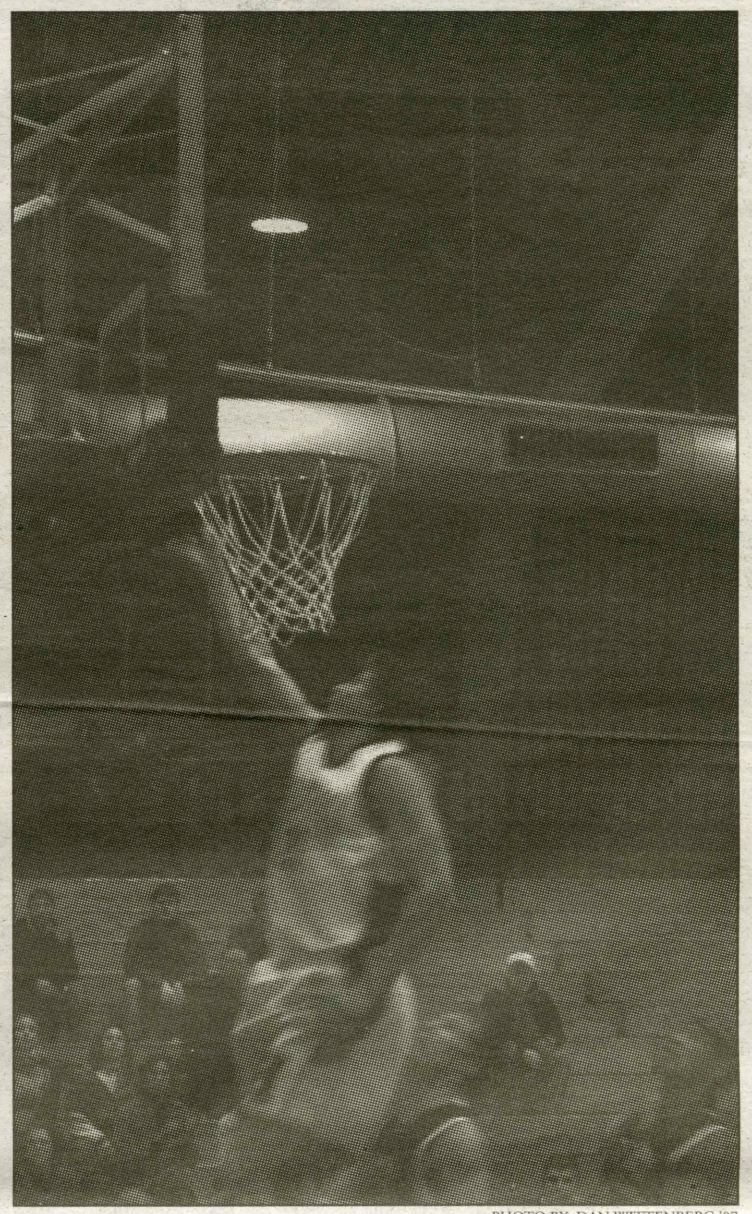

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Jack Maloney '08
SPORTS WRITER

At the season's halfway mark the Hamilton College men's basketball team stands at a solid 10-2. With league play underway, the Continentals must come ready to play every night in order to give themselves a strong opportunity to succeed in the postseason. After three Liberty League match-ups the team stands at 2-1 and is tied for second place in the standings. However, after a frustrating defeat Tuesday night, the team will work on refocusing themselves for Friday.

While most students were home on winter break, the men's basketball team was hard at work in preparation for their first league game against Rensselaer. Hamilton proved to be too much for the Red Hawks as the game was never close. The Continentals led 45-30 at the half and never looked back.

Tri-Captain Phil Valenti '06 turned in one of his strongest performances of the year going 4-7 from behind the arch and leading the team with 15 points. Also, Tri-Captain Tim Welchons '06 put forth a solid game finishing with 14 points. The hard play from Hamilton's bench continued against Rensselaer led by Zarrette Rogers '07, who finished with 10 of the team's 25 points from the bench. This was exactly the start Hamilton needed to begin its Liberty League action.

Just one day later, the team hosted the Vassar College Brewers in the Scott Field House. The Continentals went on a 9-2 run to open the game and the lead was theirs the rest of the night.

Welchons and Harlee Wood '09 led the team in scoring, each finishing the night with 13 points. Welchons also lead the team, dishing out 5 assists. Tri-Captain and tireless workhorse Staunton Peck '06 ended the night with 10 points. Valenti also notched 10 points and tied for a game high with 7 rebounds. The team hoped to keep this momentum going as they prepared for the arrival of Hobart College.

Hobart, however, came in with no intentions of letting Hamilton walk over them. They came out fast and refused to yield the entire game. The Continentals could not seem to get their offense clicking, and the Statesmen took full advantage of it. Hobart showed great composure fishing 27-33 from the line.

There were some bright spots in the defeat; Welchons continued his strong play leading all players with 23 points. He has now gone over the 20 point mark six times this season.

Valenti also continued to perform at a very high level finishing with 19 points and an impressive 8 steals. He also had a season-high 5 assists. Tsakane Ngobeni '07 made his return to the lineup felt, dishing out a game-high 13 assists.

With this tough loss behind them, the Continentals will travel to Union on Friday to take on the Dutchmen. Hamilton will no doubt come out firing and get the season back on track.

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Spectator Sports

January 20, 2006

Men's hockey rallies and ties #4 SUNY Oswego

Team finishes seven game homestand 3-3-1; team will travel this weekend to play Castleton, Skidmore

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Captain Gus Katsuras prepares for a face-off against the opposing SUNY Oswego State center during Tuesday's 3-3 tie in Sage Rink.

by Nick Rockwell '08
SPORTS EDITOR

The Hamilton College men's hockey team had not played up to their potential over winter break, but the Continentals rallied on Tuesday night, coming away with a 3-3 tie against SUNY Oswego in Sage Rink. The win was especially impressive because Oswego was ranked 4th in the country at the time. Hamilton now stands at 5-6-1 with a 4-5-0 record in NESCAC play. This weekend the team will travel east to play Castleton State and Skidmore in crucial match-ups.

On Tuesday the Lakers came to the Hill boasting a 14-2-1 record and having many players with multiple goals. Oswego jumped out to an early lead, capitalizing on Hamilton penalties. All three Laker goals were scored with Continental skaters in the penalty box.

The first goal came at the end of the first period by freshman Kyle McClutcheon. Just over a minute later Oswego stuck again on the power play after Hamilton junior defensemen Pat McGarry was whistled for hooking. The Lakers took the 2-0 lead into the locker room after the first period.

Unfortunately the visitors did not cool off during the intermission and netted their third goal after five minutes had elapsed in the second period. Senior captain Jocelyn Dubard plotted his ninth of the year. The teams exchanged scoring opportunities for the rest of the period until Chris Clarkson '07 got the Continentals on the board with seven minutes left in the second frame.

Sophomore Matt Mesi kept the crowd on its feet and brought his team to within one on a bang-bang play in front of the net only fifty-four seconds after Clarkson's goal. The Buff and Blue seemed to pick up momentum and feed off the noisy Hamilton fan base; senior captain Gus Katsuras tallied Hamilton's third unanswered goal with only a few minutes left in the second period.

With his goal, Katsuras (who leads the team with twenty-one points), moved into ninth place on Hamilton's all-time career scoring list with sixty-eight goals.

The third period saw plenty of action from both squads, but produced no goals. In overtime the Continentals were out-shot but managed to hold on for a well-deserved tie. Considering the three goal deficit and Oswego's high national ranking, a tie is certainly nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, the Oswego players looked stunned after the game; for a few minutes they actually refused to come onto the ice and acknowledge the game has ended. The tie capped off a seven game homestand, in which Hamilton went 3-3-1.

Prior to the Oswego game the team had been on the Hill practicing and playing since early January. The Conts played five games over winter break, beating UMass Boston and Amherst while losing to Babson, Southern Maine and Salem State. However, those three losses were close games; all of them were either one or two goal defeats.

The win against Amherst was a highlight for Hamilton. The Continentals dispatched of the Lord Jeffs (who are a perennially strong NESCAC contender) by a score of 7-4. In that game, sophomore Andrew Decristoforo registered a hat-trick and carried the offensive load. Hamilton dominated for most of the contest and out-shot Amherst, 44-31. Gabe Tash '06 picked up the win in net.

In the team's other win against UMass Boston, the Conts showcased their offensive depth with seven players putting their names on the scoring sheet. Katsuras finished with a goal and three assists. The game ended up being a rout with Hamilton pulling away and winning by a score of 7-2.

This weekend will include the squad's second trip to Vermont for the game with Castleton State. Hamilton needs to capitalize on the weaker Spartan team; Castleton has a record of 3-9-1.

On Saturday the Continentals will make their way to Saratoga, New York to play Skidmore, who also posts a poor record at 2-9-1. Hamilton is currently ranked 7th in the NESCAC and needs to ride the momentum from the Oswego game into this weekend. The Conts have a great opportunity to pick up some easy points. The team's next home game will be a week from today against Tufts.